The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY. Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers every week 13 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $16 00, postage pre-paid.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 issues), $1 75, in Clubs of Twenty and over, $1 25, postage pre-paid; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1875. NO. 215.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facia* evidence of intentional fraud.

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FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Italy.

A VATICAN COUNCIL.

ROME, May 17.—The *Fanfulla*, a ministerial organ, authoritatively states that the Pope has resolved to convoke a Vatican Council again at an early date, to discuss ecclesiastical reforms.

Ireland.

INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING MATCH.

LONDON, May 18, 5 A. M.—Inconsequence of the refusal of the local authorities to repair an unsafe bridge at Clontarf, it will be necessary to hold the international rifle match at Curragh, Wicklow or some other place not in the vicinity of Dublin.

France.

ENGLAND'S COURSE DURING THE ALARM—PRINCE NAPOLEON IN FAVOR OF A REPUBLIC.

PARIS, May 17.—The *Moniteur*, in an editorial referring to the course taken by the British Government during the recent war alarm, says: "England, by raising her voice in favor of peace, has naturally recovered her just authority and influence in Continental affairs, and the present ministry has acquired a degree of strength and power which will preserve for it the grateful respect of Europe."

It is announced that a manifesto from Prince Napoleon in favor of a Republic and in opposition to the restoration of the empire will soon be published.

Germany.

LONDON, May 18, 6 A. M.—The *Times* special from Berlin says while critical events were apprehended, Russia, Austria, England and Italy suffered to mediate between Germany and France. It is supposed that the Russian propositions to Germany were accompanied by offers of eventual support.

Spain.

DEMAND FOR RESTORATION OF CATHOLIC UNITY.

LONDON, May 18, 5:30 A. M.—A special from Madrid to the *Daily News*, reports that a Papal nuncio has made a formal demand for the restoration of Catholic unity in Spain, and the Government has replied that it is resolved to maintain liberty of worship.

Marine News.

QUEENSTOWN, May 17.—Arrived—Steamships Onia and Adriatic, from New York.

LIVERPOOL, May 17.—Arrived—Halifax and Manhattan, from New York, arrived out.

ST. LOUIS.

Sale of Steamboat Stock.

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—The entire stock of the John B. Maud Transportation Company, seven hundred and fifty shares, was sold to-day on private terms to Captain J. J. West and Captain Jake Swivel. The Maud will be commanded by Captain West and Captain Swivel will have charge of the office. Theodore Laveilles' one hundred shares in the Bismarck Transportation Company, one of the sidewheels of the steamer, were sold on 'Change to-day, to Captain John P. Kiser, Superintendent of the Anchor Line, for eleven dollars and a half per share.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, May 17, 1875.

BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS.

The Board of Fire Underwriters, at their annual election to-day, chose the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Edgar W. Crowell, of the Imperial of London; Vice President, D. A. Heald, of the Home of New York; Secretary, Wm. W. Henshaw, of the Long Island; Assistant Secretary, Walter K. Page, of the Guardian of New York; Treasurer, Marcus F. Hodges, of the Hoffman of New York; Committee on Finance, Messrs. Henry A. Oakley, Stephen Crowell, John D. Cocks, A. B. McDonald, S. C. Harriot, J. A. Alexander and A. P. M. Ronuis.

ARRIVED.

Arrived, steamer Baltic, from Liverpool.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—Stationary barometer, southeast winds, warmer and partly cloudy weather, and possibly light local rains.

The steamer Helvatia, from Liverpool, has arrived at New York.

Ice formed in the city and neighborhood of Washington Sunday night.

Base Ball.—At New York, Hartfords 5, Atlantics 0. At Boston, Bostons 12, Athletics 0.

J. D. Morris, member of Congress from Ohio in 1851, died at Connersville, Indiana, Sunday night.

The Chinese frigate Yang Wa starts on a cruise around the world in September next. She will first visit Japan.

The Carlists attacked Pampeluna on Sunday, throwing twenty-four shells into the city, but were finally repulsed. No casualties.

The Philadelphia jury in the Gerdeman case could not agree, and were discharged. It is said that ten voted for acquittal and two for conviction.

Five new national banks are authorized to commence business in various places in New England, and the German National Bank of Allegheny, capital $200,000.

General John C. Brickenridge died in Lexington, Kentucky, yesterday evening, of abcess of the liver combined with consumption. His last hours were quiet and peaceful.

Major Whiting, member of Congress from the Peoria, Illinois, district, left to-night for Cincinnati and Pittsburgh to purchase a steamer for the St. Louis and Illinois river trade.

Government savings banks are established throughout Japan, under control of the Postoffice Department. The minimum deposit is ten cents, and the rate of interest three per cent. per annum.

The German Roman Catholic Benevolent Association held its first business session at Cincinnati yesterday, about two hundred delegates being present. But little business was transacted and that of an unimportant character.

The pedestrian O'Leary, at 10:30 yesterday evening at Chicago, had accomplished one hundred and twenty-five miles in about twenty-nine hours. This is one-quarter of the allotted distance and less than one-fifth of his time.

The Governor of Missouri has issued a proclamation calling on the people of the State to observe Thursday, June 3d, as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, information having come to him that the State is threatened with grasshoppers and pestilence.

A Wilkesbarre dispatch states that the Empire mines, near that city, will probably be put in operation this week. The prospects are exceedingly favorable for a resumption of work in the mines throughout the valley, including those at Kingston, where there has been the most trouble.

The Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, which met in New York last week, returned a verdict of acquittal in the case of Rev. Nevin Woodside, of Brooklyn. He was charged with improper intimacy with a young woman before the Miami session at Northwood, Ohio, but the evidence proves his entire innocence.

The internal revenue officials at Chicago deny that any further steps have been taken in the distillery cases. It is stated, nevertheless, to-night, that criminal warrants have been issued against George L. Crosby, distiller of that city, and Hines and Turner, of Sagetown, Illinois, and that similar warrants will be issued against other distillers there to-morrow.

About eight o'clock Sunday night, Alonzo Jackson, his wife and two children, Albert Smith, his wife and two children, all of Zanesville, Ohio, went over a dam in a skiff, drowning Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Smith, and one child of Jackson's and one child of Smith's. It is said that the men were under the influence of liquor and could not manage the boat.

Captain Eads, Colonel Andrews, Captain Boffinger and party have returned to New Orleans from the passes at the mouth of the Mississippi. Captain Eads reports the condition of affairs there more favorable than he anticipated, and has no doubt that within twelve months he will have twenty feet of water. The Government engineers will complete the surveys by Friday.

Trade Mark Patented.

The White River Brand is patented as a trade mark. All persons found refilling my bags or barrels with other flour or using the same White River on flour, in any form, are hereby notified that proceedings will be brought against all offenders.

T. C. JENKINS.

Inducements for Cash.

Twenty-five cents per barrel on flour and one per cent on all other goods if paid in ten days from date of bills. T. C. Jenkins, Checkered Front.

TOUGHENED GLASS.

A Unique Discovery by M. De La Bastie, a French Engineer—Some Articles Produced by His Process.

(From the London Times.)

Although the manufacture of glass has been carried on for about two thousand years, it does not appear that any attempts to overcome its inherent brittleness and liability to fracture, and at the same time to preserve its transparency, have proved successful—if, indeed, they have ever been made, which is doubtful. It is true that the French philosopher, Reaumur, many years since hardened glass by exposing it to a high temperature for a considerable time. But this process, which is technically termed devitrification, while it hardens, at the same time crystallizes the glass and renders it opaque, the product being known as Reaumur's porcelain. Seven years since, however, M. Francois de la Bastie, a French engineer, after long and patient investigation into the subject, discovered a simple means of rendering glass practically unbrittle, and at the same time preserving its transparency. There were many delicate conditions involved in the process by which he obtained this result, his success being achieved much in the same way as Pasteur's, but on endeavoring to repeat the successful experiment he failed signally. For two years more M. de la Bastie, who possesses ample means, strove without avail to rediscover the secret of his success. At length, however, he succeeded in so doing, and has since been engaged in perfecting his invention, and developing a laboratory experiment into practical working. The process of conversion in the main is a very simple one, so simple that it seems singular it was never thought of before. Broadly stated, it consists in heating the glass to a certain temperature and plunging it while hot into a bath consisting of a heated oleaginous compound. There are, however, many conditions in connection with the details of the process upon which a satisfactory result depends, and the neglect of any, even in a slight degree, constitutes the difference between success and failure. Thus the glass may be under-heated, and may not be susceptible to the effect of the bath, or it may be over-heated and then it will lose its shape; or, again, it may be rightly heated, and yet be spoiled in the course of transference of the bath. Moreover, the oleaginous constituents of the bath and their temperature have an important bearing upon the ultimate result. These and numerous other points of detail have all been satisfactorily settled by M. de la Bastie, who has designed furnaces and baths by means of which his toughening process can be carried out practically without fear of mischance. The time occupied in the acutal process of tempering is merely nominal, for directly the articles are brought to the required temperature they are plunged into the bath and instantly withdrawn. The cost of tempering, too, is stated to be very small.

We have observed that M. de la Bastie went through a long course of experimental research before he attained success. He would, as a matter of course, naturally would, upon mechanical principles. Knowing that the fragility of glass results from the weakness of the cohesion of its molecules, he not unreasonably sought, by forcing these molecules more closely together, and thus rendering the mass more compact, the strength and solidity of the material would be increased. But this doctrine, which holds good with iron and steel, as Sir Joseph Whitworth has practically demonstrated, does not apply to glass—compression failing to toughen it, even if applied to it when in a fluid or soft condition. By applying heat, however, which is only force in another form, the desired end is attained, and the original properties of the material become altered in a very remarkable manner. To this singular fact we can testify, from the inspection of a number of toughened glass articles at the offices of Messrs. Abel Rey & Bros., 29 Mincing Lane, the representatives of M. de la Bastie in England. In these articles, which consisted of wineglasses, plates, dishes and sheet glass, both colored and plain, neither transparency nor color had been affected by hardening or sound only slightly. These articles—some of them being exceedingly thin—were thrown indiscriminately across a room against a wall, and fell spinning on the deal floor. Water was boiled in a saucer over a fire, and the saucer was quickly removed to a comparatively cold place, and was unaffected by the sudden change of temperature. One corner of a piece of glass was held by the hand in a gas flame until the corner became exceedingly hot, but the heat was not communicated to the other portion of the glass, neither was it cracked from unequal expansion. A comparative experiment was then made with a piece of ordinary plate glass and a similar piece of toughened glass, in order to show their respective powers of resistance to fracture from the force of impact by a falling weight. In each case the glass was about six inches square, and was placed in a frame, the weight being dropped upon its centre. With the ordinary glass, a two ounce brass weight falling on it from a height of 12 and 18 inches respectively did no damage, but at 24 inches the glass was broken into several fragments. With a thinner piece of toughened glass no impression was made by the same weight falling from heights ranging from 12 to 100 feet, the weight simply rebounding from off the glass. An eight ounce iron weight, tried at 2 and 4 feet respectively, gave similar results. Upon the height of 8 feet being taken to 6 feet, however, the glass broke. But here another singular result was produced; instead of breaking into about a dozen pieces, as did the ordinary glass, it was literally smashed to atoms. The largest fragments measured about half an inch in length and breadth, and these were easily reduced by the fingers to atoms varying in size from that of a pin's point to that of a large pin's head. The lines of fractures in the fragments presented to the eye the appearance of irregular lace work, and these lines were, moreover, apparent to the touch, but more palpably on one side of the glass than the other. Which of the two sides was the one that received the first impact of the blow we are not able to determine. Another peculiarity is that the edges of the fracture are by no means so sharp, and therefore capable of causing incised wounds, as are those of ordinary glass. It would seem that the toughened glass possesses enormous cohesive power, but that if the equilibrium of the mass is disturbed at any one point the disturbance or disintegration instantly extends throughout the whole piece, the atoms no longer possessing the power of cohesion.

Of the practical nature of M. de la Bastie's unique discovery there can be no question whatever, nor can there be any doubt of its value in the arts, sciences and manufactures. The applications which suggest themselves are innumerable, and above and beyond its usefulness of the process with regard to articles of domestic use some important considerations affecting the applied sciences, especially in connection with chemical manufactures and similar industries, where a material alike uninfluenced by the action of heat or acids has been so long and vainly sought for—notably in connection with vitriol chambers in the manufacture of sulphuric acid, and for pipping in chemical works. For the present there remains one purpose to which toughened glass cannot be so easily applied, and that is to window glazing in odd sizes, inasmuch as it cannot be cut by a diamond or other ordinary means. Our glaziers will, therefore, have a respite, but we cannot give them hope that it will prove a long one, as experiments are considerably promise are being conducted with the view of solving this problem. Moreover, the glass can be cut to the proper size before toughening if desirable. The glass, however, is readily engraved either by fluoric acid in the usual way, or by Mr. Tilghman's elegant sand blast process. It can be easily polished, and it may also be ground by the wheel as for lustre work and the like. It only remains to congratulate M. de la Bastie on the useful and valuable discovery he has made, and to add that he is now erecting works in France to carry out in practice his ingenious process.

FRESH interest has been excited in Chaldean lore by George Smith's recovery in the ruins of Kongunjik of a fragment from the Assyrian tablets discovered by Ladyard some two years ago. The inscription, now complete, is supposed to date from at least two thousand years before the Christian era. Smith has made a translation of the inscription, which seems to be the prototype of the Biblical story concerning the deluge. The Chaldean Noah is Hasisados, a demi-god, who relates to a mortal his escape from the deluge sent upon the earth to punish the wickedness of the human family. His peril lasted but six days, a much shorter water experience than that of Admiral Noah. The Biblical legend is familiar to every reader. Here is a fragment of Hasisados's "statement," as translated from the Assyrian tablets:

On the seventh day in the course of it
I sent forth a dove and it left. The dove went and turned, and
A resting place it did not find, and it returned.
I sent forth a swallow and it left. The swallow went and turned, and
A resting place it did not find, and it returned.
I sent forth a raven and it left.
The raven went, and the corpses on the water it saw, and
It did eat, it swam, and wandered away, and did not return.
I sent the animals forth to the four winds, I poured out a libation,
I built an altar on the peak of the mountain,
By seven herbs I cut.
At the bottom of them I placed reeds, pines and zingar.
The gods collected at its burning, the gods collected at its good burning;
The gods like flies over the sacrifice gathered.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

New National Banks—Increase of Applications from the East—Partnership of Williams and Douglass—The Postoffice Department—Retrenchment for the New Fiscal Year—Charges Against the Son of Secretary Delano.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17, 1875.

New National Banks.

The Comptroller of the Currency to-day authorized the creation of a number of new banks, aggregating a capital of about a million dollars. Notwithstanding the great cry made by the inflationists of the West and South at the last session of Congress of more money, the books of the Comptroller's office show that fully nine-tenths of the applications for new banks come from the Eastern States.

Williams and Douglass.

Ex-Attorney General Williams and ex-Commissioner Douglass have taken an office together. The ex-Attorney General sets out in his professional career with eight important cases before the Supreme Court of the United States. It is feared that there is a probability of the two ex-officials entering into a partnership in the law.

The Postoffice Department.

The Postoffice Department is actively engaged in perfecting its arrangements to carry into effect many details of administration and retrenchment which it is proposed to inaugurate at the beginning of the new fiscal year. The Postmaster General is determined to exert every effort to bring down the deficiency in his department.

Charges Against Delano's Son.

There are indications of a stir in Cabinet circles over the action of Secretary Bristow in preferring charges against the son of Secretary Delano. Several Cabinet officers have expressed themselves as disapproving of his interference in that matter, nor did the President receive the interference with signs of approval.

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 17, 1875.

THE WHISKY FRAUDS.

Secretary Bristow to-day called on the Attorney General and afterwards on the President, both visits having significance with reference to the past and future operations against illicit distillers. Subsequently the Secretary was closely closeted with Commissioner Pratt, and received damaging statements against the ring, submitted to them by Revenue Agent Yaryan. Within the few days past Yaryan's detective has received communications from Eastern cities, indicating to him that he has hardly yet broken the crust of the formidable ring which he is trying to break down. Offers have been made him, contingent on his co-operation with those making the offer, to supply evidence which will involve a number of heretofore regarded respectable houses in Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and elsewhere. The secret service officer has declined service from any further active participation in the crusade, and has entrusted to Mr. Pratt, the new Revenue Commissioner, the duty of stamping out the further revelations.

PROBABLE REVENUE CHANGES.

It is expected that prominent internal revenue changes will soon be made in the West.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Receiver for the Chicago, Danville and Vincennes Road.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Judge J. Blodgett and Drummond to-day sat together in the United States Circuit Court, to hear the motion of counsel for the Chicago, Danville and Vincennes Railroad Company to discharge the Receivers, Hammond and Brown, appointed by the Will County Circuit Court. There was a long argument by the counsel for both interests, at the conclusion of which Judge Drummond, the matter under advisement, intimating at the same time that the two parties to the suit would do better to agree to appoint a disinterested party as Receiver.

CHEYENNE.

Black Hills Parties.

CHEYENNE, May 17.—Parties have been arriving here daily, for the past two weeks, who intend going to the Black Hills as soon as the Government permits. About fifty arrived here to-day via the Union Pacific Railroad. The Union Pacific Railroad Company, who have obtained a patent for odd sections on which a portion of Cheyenne is built, sold a lot for $1,000, four lots, aggregating $19,250. Prof. Jennings and party leave to-morrow for the Black Hills.

TYRONE, PA.

The Mining Troubles—Protection of the Miners at the Franklin Mines—Arrest of Strikers at Osceola.

TYRONE, PA., May 17.—This morning nine Germans, under charge of Sheriff McPherson, were taken to the Franklin mines from here. Fifty-six strikers were arrested by the Sheriff at Osceola, and taken to Clearfield jail, in charge of masking threats against the workingmen. No resistance was made. The Sheriff is determined to protect the men at work.

FIRE RECORD.

Fort Madison, Iowa—$50,000.

FORT MADISON, IOWA, May 17.—About four o'clock this morning a large saw mill of Weston & Co., in the eastern part of this city, took fire and was burned to the ground. The mill and one dry shed, with a few piles of lumber, lath and shingles, were also burned. The watchman states that it was all in a blaze when he first noticed it. The cause of the fire is unknown. The loss is estimated at $50,000; insured for $12,500.

Loomis, Michigan—$27,000.

DETROIT, May 17.—The saw mill of Wise & Loomis, together with a large quantity of lumber, at Loomis, Mich., was destroyed to-day by fire. Loss on mill $15,000; on lumber $12,000.

POLITICAL.

New Hampshire.

DECISION AGAINST "NATT" HEAD.

BOSTON, May 17.—Governor Weston, of New Hampshire, and four out of five of his council, decide that votes cast for "Natt" Head, Republican candidate for State Senator from the Second district, are to be treated as blanks, claiming that his name is Nathaniel. They also threw out the vote cast for the Prohibition candidate for State Senator, declaring him ineligible on account of not having been a resident of the State as long as the law prescribes. This gives the two disputed seats in the Senate to the Democrats.

A Veritable Glass Eater.

John Miller, a native of Prussia, who came to America in 1867, after more than ten years' service in the Prussian army, and now a resident of La Salle, Illinois, is a glass eater. Incredible as the statement may seem, it is nevertheless literally and strictly true. Pounded or otherwise crushed glass, however kindly compounded with other and more palatable and digestible substances, is commonly regarded as a fatal diet for rats, and has never been recommended by physicans and sanitary boards as an article of hygienic regimen for human beings; but the experience of the hero of this sketch proves that he, at least, can eat glass with impunity, whatever may be the fate of rodents indulging in such a diet. For a small wager he will chew and swallow a 7x9 pane of window glass or a beer mug, excepting only the bottom and handle, on the solidity of which latter he is slightly averse to exercising the strength of his jaws or the reliability of his molars. There is no slight-of-hand trick of deception in the performance; numerous respectable witnesses will attest that they have seen him bite out mouthfuls from panes of glass, chew it, show it to them in the process of mastication, and then swallow it, following it with a draught of beer. He was about fourteen years of age, he says, when he first attempted a vitreous meal; he has often repeated it since, and his teeth are none the worse for such service. He estimates that during the last two years he has eaten an average of ten pounds of glass per annum.

THE most extensive dealer in agricultural implements in this city informs us that the market is virtually exhausted of corn-drills and breaking plows, the manufacturers of these implements not being able to turn them out fast enough to meet the demand. There is no means of ascertaining exactly the capacity of the factories, but it is certain that some thousands of plows are turned out daily, while the number of drills must be large.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

White River

now arriving in bags and barrels.

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

History of the Family of the Great Traitor

LONDON, April 3, 1875.—I suppose if there is one man whose memory is more execrated in the United States than that of any other, it is the infamous traitor, Benedict Arnold. It is well known that after his escape he entered the British service, and rose to the rank of brigadier general, and that he finely died in London in the year 1801. I have recently read his will, which was dated in "London, 30 August, 1800," and was proved "18 July, 1801," by his widow. From it I learn that he had been some time retired on half-pay, and had received from the Government a grant of 13,000 acres of land, chiefly in Canada, where two of his sons, Richard and Henry, were then living, engaged in farming, and, with them, one Stephen, an illegitimate son, named John Sage, aged about 14. There is nothing in his will to indicate that he was other than the average sort of English gentleman. He provided handsomely for his children, leaving their portions to be distributed to them by his beloved wife, with what he called equal justice. He also left an annuity of $200 for his maiden sister, Hannah Arnold, who, I believe, long survived him, and finally died in their native place, Norwich, Conn. He directed that his funeral should be attended by no expense that could possibly be avoided.

His wife, you know, was Margaret, daughter of Edward Shippen, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, whose family name is still preserved in Philadelphia. They were married in 1779. She did not long survive Benedict, but will, dated in "Bruton street, London, 26 January, 1804," was proved on the 6th of September, in the same year. She stated that, actuated by principles of the strictest integrity, as well as in conformity to the will of her late beloved husband, she was earnestly desirous of doing equal justice to all his children, and therefore proceeded to appoint property, which appears to have been considerable, among them. Besides the two sons, Richard and Henry, who, she intimated, had already had their portions, and of whom nothing more appears to be known, there were four other sons and one daughter, viz.: Edward Shippen Arnold, who became a lieutenant in the Bengal Cavalry, and died at Singapore in 1813; James Robertson Arnold, who rose to the rank of lieutenant general in the army, and died in 1834, a widow surviving him till 1852; George Arnold, who became lieutenant colonel in the Bengal Cavalry, and died in India in 1828; William Finch Arnold, who became a captain in the Nineteenth Linners, and died in 1840; Sophia Matilda, who married Major Pownall Phipps, of the East India Company's service, of the family of the Earl of Mulgrave, and died 1828. The youngest child, Elizabeth Arnold (whose will I have, who lived until 1808. I probably jostled in the streets of London), was the only one who died, or at least left, surviving issue. Elizabeth, in 1819, a daughter of Captain Alexander Ruddach, of the Royal Navy, and had two sons and four daughters. The latter all married clergymen, and, I believe, are living. The eldest son, Alexander, a captain in the army, was killed at Sebastopol in 1855. The only surviving grandson of Benedict Arnold (whose will is to be seen in Canada left issue) is the Rev. Edward Gladwin Arnold, now Rector of Great Massingham in Norfolk, and formerly rector of Rand and honorable careers. His descent of the family is given in the last edition of Burke's Landed Gentry, and I cannot but think that the reverend gentleman would be shocked at the bare taste if he had begun his periodical with his father rather than his traitor grandfather.

STATE NEWS.

The editor of the Norristown *Herald* is going to Europe.

Stroudsburg is agitating a railroad from that town to some point on the Lehigh river.

The wife of Dr. Hock, of Meadville, was found dead in her bed on the morning of the 14th inst.

Rev. J. M. McGonigle was last week installed as pastor of the Presbyterian church in Ebensburg.

A portion of Philadelphia is regaled with pump water filtered through a cemetery containing 15,896 dead bodies.

The Great Council of Red Men has on hand a building fund reported at "1,500 farthgons." Who can fathom the meaning of this?

W. H. Zimmerman, of Franklin, Cambria county, attempted to commit suicide on the 14th inst., by cutting his throat, while laboring under an attack of delirium tremens. His wounds are severe, but it is thought he will recover.

Two brothers, named John Joel Powers and Stanley Powers, have been convicted of murder in the second degree at Towanda. They slew a small old man named Luther Sickler, in January last, in Asylum township, Bradford county, under circumstances of great brutality.

The Erie *Daily Argus* has made its appearance, and is, typographically and otherwise, a very creditable looking sheet. Erie could well afford to give so small a living, but whether the new candidate for favor achieves success or not, the managers promise to make it deserving.

Joseph Porchy died at his home in Wayne township, near Frenchtown, Crawford county, on the 13th inst., aged one hundred and two years, eight months and twelve days. He was born in the south of France, on August 31st, 1772, came to America in 1827, having lived in Crawford county nearly ever since. He was married twice; eighty-five years of his life was spent with wives. He leaves six generations to perpetuate his name.

Southern Democracy.

Quite a number of Democratic papers have pleased themselves and their readers lately by statistical tables showing that the rate of success won in a few States, multiplied into equal to be won in others at the North, will, when the solid Southern vote is added, return the Democracy to national power, and that probably at the next Presidential election. There have been some differences of opinion about the Northern States that are to be gained, but there have been none about the instant recovery of all the South. It is taken in bulk, in every calculation, as mortgaged to Democracy, and the victory anticipated is left entirely out in reference to the Northern States.

The matter is one of moment to more than the number who are discussing it. Some Republican journals have been alarmed by the effectiveness of the tabulation, and individuals seeing the claim uncontradicted may have felt that it was not met because it unanswerably true. The whole assumption, as stated, rests on the premiss that the South is reliably Democratic. We do not care to argue the probabilities of that case, every man's opinion being worth as much as his neighbor's in this field. But we have some incontestible Democratic testimony from the South that upsets the statistic ans and their calculations. The Memphis *Appeal* is Democratic beyond doubt or question. It is also Southern, and thus qualified by two essentials to bear witness concerning the main fact that underlies all these vaticinations. It says in a recent issue:

"Our experience here is, after four years of trial and test, that the negro is joined to his idols,' and cannot be induced by force or circumstance or logic to vote with any other party than the Republican; and we do not believe that a break in the black ranks is possible so long as the two great parties confront each other."

The editorial vote volunteered in the South. Without it no party can gain—with it none can lose. Being by Democratic consent Republican beyond any possibility of exchange, it cannot be counted to carry the South; and failing this essential, no local successes at the North, in the few States where such may be won, can achieve anything of the results anticipated. We state it just as well that this fact should be considered before ill-feeling is occasioned in regard to the distribution of patronage.—*Philadelphia North American.*

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A CURSE.

From A Drunkard's Widow—Some Cases of Death in Orange, N. J., that are Superstitiously Regarded—The Alcoholic Exploit of Besotted Henry Connors.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Thinking that a part, at least, of your many readers might be interested in a short sketch of the valuable interests which are unknown to those who have not traveled over that portion of our great country known as Northern Georgia and Alabama, as well as the State of Tennessee at large, is why I give this brief sketch of my late travels through that portion of our country. I shall confine myself mostly to the mineral resources, as that part seems to be least known. I will commence with Alabama. The northern part of this State has, perhaps, one of the largest iron mountains yet discovered in the world, being about forty-five miles in length and three-quarters of a mile in width at the base, and one hundred and seventy-five feet high, with a continuous vein of iron ore the entire length. The ore is of the kind generally known as the fossil or dystem species, and is found cropping out on the west side of the mountain (as the mountain runs north and south), near the top, and shows a vein near forty feet in thickness and dipping about forty-five degrees to the east. The ore lies in strata from six inches to one foot thick, like sand or free-stone rock, lying closely compact, one upon the top of another, making it quite easy to mine after the covering is removed, which, of course, is quite expensive in some places, as the covering in some instances is so heavy that the ore has to be drifted after, as we go after coal here. Near this mountain is the very flourishing town of Birmingham, on the Nashville and Great Southern Railroad, which has sprung up since the war to the size of ten thousand inhabitants, with a fair prospect of getting the State capital removed there before many years, on account of the great future prosperity which is expected to be derived from this iron deposit. There have been three furnaces erected within a short distance of Birmingham, and had it not been for the panic, many more would have been in course of erecting, as there are large coal beds almost adjoining, which are said to furnish excellent coke for smelting iron.

I passed from here to Northern Georgia. Here I found a different kind or species of iron ore, that known as the brown hematite, which, I must say, astonished me, and I think will astonish any one to examine it. I say it will astonish any one to learn that we have such immense bodies of iron ore which are comparatively unknown to the world, and I must not dwell here, lest I weary your patience, but will pass from here to the great State of Tennessee, where we find like iron ores of all kinds in superabundance. But let me say, by way of introducing myself to this State, that I have no interests there, not owning one foot of land or timber, nor do I expect ever to own all being in Missouri; therefore the probabilities are that I will not overrate it, and would recommend all those visiting Tennessee, for the purpose of purchasing or locating in that State, to call upon Col. J. B. Killebrew, Secretary of the Bureau of Agriculture, Nashville, and Major R. R. Love, of Chattanooga, who will be happy to give any desired information, as they are gentlemen of high standing, and can be relied upon in all cases, as I am well acquainted with all parts of the State.

I will commence by saying that this State has one of the finest futures, as an iron producing State, of any in the Union. To substantiate this, I will mention a few of the advantages which this State has in minerals over others. In the first place, it is centrally located, and near the nearest and most ready of access to the great coal fields of Indiana and Illinois. I might say almost contiguous, having but two several rivers, the Ohio and the Tennessee, which are navigable the year round, and right through the center of the State, passing through its entire length, and with the best limitation making any article by water transportation to almost every locality where iron ore abounds, in quantity and quality which, I think, is not excelled in the United States, if in the world. I will just say that the iron ores are inexhaustible, making the Lake Superior ores as well as Missouri ranges secondary. Knowing what I say, I will be content as to iron ore. I will further think that these iron ore fields on the Lower Tennessee and Cumberland rivers will be the most ready ores that can be reached from Pittsburgh, being almost directly on the Ohio river. But the great wealth of Tennessee is that she has all of the requirements requisite to making iron within her own grasp, having coal fields in extent equal to Pennsylvania, and in addition to that, limestone in close proximity to furnish charcoal for years to come, which is almost indispensable for making a certain grade iron that we must have. Very few people have ever made a proper investigation of this State would fail to be astonished to see what they are doing in regard to making coking coal. I will state, as for instance, the Swanee Mines, near Cowan, on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. These mines employ from six to seven hundred hands, and have a capacity of shipping four millions of bushels per annum, coking about one half of their shipments, it being an excellent quality, which can be made to be delivered at the yard by rail in the State at eight cents per bushel. These mines or coal fields extend over the greater part of Grundy and Marion counties, the vein being about a four and a half foot vein, but these mines are not all, by any means. There are many others, but I do not name them, as the coal fields cover nearly one fourth of the State. Now, as yet, I have only mentioned the iron ore and stone and charcoals of the State; but its additions to these are large deposits of lead, zinc, copper, nickel, cobalt, lumbago, silver, and last, though not least, the great marble quarries which are, perhaps, not surpassed in the world for variety and richness, being of every shade and color from the snowy white with all the variegated colors to the black.

Now, in summing up this great State, with its beautiful, fertile lands, which, with its cheapness, make it accessible to all, with its fine, healthy climate, the great natural resources which its mineral wealth must bring within its borders, must, as soon as properly known, cause a tide of emigration to flow within its borders that has never been equaled in any of the nations more, provided they come from a gentleman or lady; and as to crime, I think the per centage of crime far below that of the North. Those going there need have no fears, if they go with an honest purpose. They will also find much refined society, even in the rural districts, of course not so much in the most remote parts, back in the mountains, but you will find it there equally as refined as in our mountainous parts in Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM BURNS.

The Mission of the Fly.

Mr. Emerson, an English chemist, whose experiments are recorded in the *Scientific American*, shows the fly to be a friend instead of a pest to mankind. Watch a fly just alighted after soaring about the room for some little time. He adds:

He goes through a series of operations which reminds you of a cat licking herself after a meal, or of a bird pluming its feathers. First, the hind feet are rubbed together, then each hind leg is passed over a wing, then the fore legs undergo a like treatment; and lastly, if you look sharp, you will see the insect carry his probosci over his legs and about his body as far as his antennæ. The minute trunk is perfectly retractile, and it terminates in two large lobes, which you can see spread out when the insect begins a meal on a lump of sugar; but for what purpose is this carefully going over the body with the trunk, especially when that organ is not fitted for licking, but simply for grasping and sucking up food?

Mr. Emerson began his task of finding out whether the house fly really serves any appreciable purpose in the scheme of nature, and has accomplished his passenger, by capturing a fine specimen and gluing his wings down to a microscope slide. On placing the slide under the instrument for investigation, the insect briefly appeared covered with lice, causing the offending insect to be promptly released and another substituted in his place. Fly just as well that this fact should be considered before ill-feeling is occasioned in regard to the distribution of patronage.—*Philadelphia North American.*

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☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—BON

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1875.

MR. BECK, of Kentucky, says that if ALLEN carries Ohio at the next October election, for Governor, "all hell cannot keep him from being elected President." It would not, certainly, if it could.

THERE is always a Bourbon to turn the spit when another Bourbon is to be roasted. The Cincinnati *Enquirer* requests THURMAN to remember that it is necessary to be a statesman first, and a candidate for the Presidency afterwards.

THE acrobatic *Post* still clings to its belief that a man can play pitch and toss with grave political principles, first on one side of the Ohio river and then on the other. The flexible morality of that paper reminds of the rhyme:

"'Twas St. Signor; 'twas Yaw, Mynheer,
'Twas S'il von plait, Monsieur."

THE new law regulating the protection of trade marks throughout the German Empire has just gone into effect. Citizens of the United States can get protection for the whole of Germany for their trademarks, names, firm names, etc., by applying to the Commercial Court at the city of Leipsic.

DAME QUICKLY, watching the fatal symptoms of FALSTAFF, pathetically exclaimed: "Oh, poor heart! he is shaken with a burning quotidian tertian that is lamentable to behold." The diagnosis will stand equally good in the cases of TILDEN, ALLEN, THURMAN, HENDRICKS, and a score of other patients stricken with the Presidential fever, to-day.

THE Pennsylvania branch, or home stock of the ALEXANDER family, who emigrated to North Carolina from this Commonwealth early in its colonial history, and six of whom signed the Mecklenburg "Declaration of Independence," will be represented at the approaching Centennial by JAMES ALEXANDER, of Mifflin county, who is seventy-four years old.

NO REPUBLICAN begrudges Secretary BRISTOW the credit to which he is rightfully entitled for his campaign against the Whisky Ring, but when it comes to magnifying and extolling all of his official acts, with the evident preconcerted design of thrusting him upon the Republican party as their candidate for the Presidency, we object that it is forcing the season with decidedly too great rapidity.

EVEN the New York *World*, referring to its Democratic friends in the Assembly of that State, finds itself compelled to say: "Regretfully we withold our denial that numerous members of the present Legislature have made themselves as merchantable as tea and sugar." That is to say, like every other Legislature of similar political complexion, it has proved itself, during the past session, a model of corruption and rascality.

WHENEVER a wrong-doer feels the stringent effects of the law upon him, he is sure the law must be unconstitutional. We are not therefore surprised to hear that the whisky thieves in St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee propose to test the constitutionality of the Internal Revenue law. Out of the millions they have filched from the Government, they can afford to give the lawyers a few thousands to secure themselves a little delay.

THE committee appointed to examine candidates for the office of Mine Inspector for the Middle and Lower districts of Luzerne county, has concluded its labors, and nominated as the successful candidates THOMAS M. WILLIAMS for the Middle or Wilkesbarre district, and THOMAS D. JONES for the Lower or Hazelton district. The appointment is for five years. The former selection is a reappointment. There were nineteen candidates for these inspectorships, ten of whom passed very creditable examinations.

MR. DORMAN B. EATON read a paper before the Social Science Association at Detroit upon Civil Service Reform, in which he attributed its failure to the fact that it undertook too much. As to its future prospects, he thought it would again be put in operation *when the people wanted it*, and not before, which is the most sensible conclusion in the whole paper. Many measures, wise in themselves, have failed, because undertaken too soon, and this is one of them. In a popular government, what the people want they generally get, and what they do not want they will not have, be it ever so commendable from an abstract point of view.

A CURIOUS feature of Virginia law has just been brought to light in a decision of the United States District Court, in a case allowing a deduction of interest on certain promissory notes running during the war. The Court said that the contract to pay interest in Virginia was a subject to the legislative will, and not protected by the constitutional provision prohibiting the impairment of contracts. It was also said that the Legislature has constantly subjected the allowance of interest to the discretion of juries. The plain inference is that no matter what rate of interest may be agreed upon in a Virginia contract, either a court of chancery or a jury has the power to allow any other rate, or none at all. It is just as well that people who have money to lend, generally, should be made aware of this strange fact.

THE first session of the Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church was held in 1873, and consisted of one bishop, six clergymen and thirteen laymen. The second, held in 1874, consisted of two bishops, fifteen ministers and thirty-eight lay deputies, representing eleven parishes, with a membership of from twelve to fifteen hundred communicants. The third, now in session at Chicago, has as its members two bishops, forty ministers, thirty-five parishes, and seventy lay deputies, who represent four thousand communicants, as officially reported to the council. These parishes include four in New York State; one at Newark, New Jersey; five in Philadelphia; one at Put-in-Bay, Ohio; eight in Illinois, of which five are in Chicago; one each at Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburgh, Lousville, Peoria (Illinois); besides several in Minnesota and Colorado, etc.

ATTENTION has been called, by the financial journals of the country, to the fact that the credit of the United States, in Europe, is lower than that of several Euro pean governments which have a less substantial basis of credit than our government has.

Of the fact, itself, there can be no question. The United States Government has paid off two national debts, and has never defaulted in the payment of either interest or principal, when due; yet European nations which have no defaults, and have scarcely a tithe of our resources, are able to borrow money in every leading market at rates of interest below what we are required to pay. Why is it, then, that a government which has uniformly maintained its credit, is subjected to this discrimination?

The answer to this question is to be found, probably, in the immense number of bonds thrown upon the European market by the various States, as well as by cities and private corporations, and the failure of many of them to maintain their credit. The Southern States are nearly all in default upon their bonds, while a large number of corporations, which have borrowed largely abroad, have failed to meet their payments. Foreign capitalists naturally identify the National Government with the States, and the corporations created under State laws; and the Central Government suffers in its credit through the bad faith of some of its branches. If the National Government was the only American borrower abroad, she could doubtless borrow money at four per cent. as easily as she does now at five; but so long as some of the States behave badly in disregarding their bonded obligations, so long will the credit of the National Government be affected thereby.

APROPOS of the rapid development of the silk industry of the United States, as indicated by the last annual report of the Silk Makers' Association, the remarkable success which has attended the experiment of M. DE BOISSIERE, a French philanthropist, in Kansas, in the manufacture of silk-velvet trimming, is worthy of note. After several years of careful experimenting, under all kinds of conditions, he asserts that in both soil and climate Kansas is as well adapted to this business as the best of the silk districts of France, and expresses himself confident that his factory will grow to be a thing of national importance. Last year, when farming proper in Kansas was almost a total failure, one of his colonists, with only four acres of land to furnish food for his worms, raised enough silk cocoons to bring him $1,180; and the actual labor was all performed in about two months. The mulberry tree is indigenous to that State, and an acre of land will grow enough to make 40,000 cocoons, worth from $100 to $140. The expense of cultivating the trees and caring for the worms is comparatively nothing, and the product can be readily sold in cocoon shape just as the worms leave it. The success of M. DE BOISSIERS has encouraged quite a number of Kansas farmers to test this new industry the present season, on a limited scale; and, in some localities, operations of considerable magnitude have been commenced. Who knows but that in course of time grasshoppered Kansas may become a "silk center," turning thitherward the $20,000,000 trade in that class of goods which the United States now annually gives to France? It would be a consummation devoutly to be wished.

THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY.

Some time since, Mr. WILLIAM THAW, of this city, made known to the managers of the Western University his willingness to contribute the sum of $100,000 toward the permanent endowment of that institution, whenever an equal sum should be subscribed for the same purpose by others.

This was a noble offer, and should have been met before this. The managers of the University have been endeavoring to secure the needed amount of subscriptions; and, although they have met with very gratifying success, they have not yet been able to secure an amount sufficient to cover Mr. THAW'S generous offer.

The depression in business caused by the panic of 1873 has doubtless operated to prevent that promptly favorable response which might otherwise have been anticipated; but we cannot bring ourselves to believe that there is not sufficient public spirit in Pittsburgh to secure a gift depending upon such a condition.

Here are two hundred thousand dollars in view for this worthy institution; one half is ready to be paid down, when the other half is forthcoming. Shall the whole be lost because the half cannot be secured? The University needs this endowment, badly. It will be sufficient for it, and will not only put it out of its present cramped condition, but will enable it to enlarge its efforts and establish law and medical schools, in addition to its present lines of study, as well as prepare itself for establishing, also, what is so much needed here, an industrial school. If it can only secure this endowment, it will become an ornament of the city, and every Pittsburgher will have reason to be proud of possessing a University worthy of both the city and the State.

Its sister institution in Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, has been the recipient of much greater benefactions than this. Counting together what it has received from the city, the State, and from individuals, the sum of at least a million and a half of dollars has been settled upon it within a few years, and now Philadelphia points proudly to the University as one of its greatest ornaments. Why should Pittsburgh be less generous in proportion?

The State helped the University of Pennsylvania, not as an educational concern, but to aid in establishing a hospital in connection with its medical school. But the medical school was established firmly before this successful appeal to the charity of the State was made; and the Western University, before it can make a like appeal, must establish *its* medical school, likewise. To do this it must have the two hundred thousand dollars referred to; and this can be had only through the generosity of those of our citizens who are able and willing to contribute to such objects.

Fortunately, the number of those who are both able and willing to do this is not small, although it is limited. The sum asked for is not a large one; and considering the results to be obtained by it, there should be but little delay in obtaining it. The University is our only college. It has had a long and honorable existence, and deserves to be placed upon a more substantial basis. Mr. THAW, appreciating its worth and its means of doing good to the community, has done his share of the work necessary to bring it up to a first-class institution, and it behooves our other publicspirited citizens to see that they are not outdone by him in generosity.

We might write columns in behalf of the plea we here set up for the University, but we do not think it necessary. The facts are plain and the reasons clear; and we appeal to our kind-hearted men of wealth to take this case into earnest consideration, and extend their hands liberally.

THE recent marked decline in the tide of immigration to this country has attracted general attention, both at home and abroad. One of the papers read at the Social Science Convention, at Detroit, last week, presents quite an intelligent resume of the falling off, and its causes. It appears that the tide from Europe to the United States was highest in 1854, when the arrivals numbered 427,833. In 1873, they were about 386,000, and in 1874, 200,000. The rule, tersely stated, is that bad times in Europe regularly increase, and bad times in America invariably diminish immigration. In 1872, 50,000 English immigrants came to this country, and a repetition of these figures is expected when times are better. Germany has already sent us more than 2,500,000 of people, and will, no doubt, continue to be our largest source of supply. The laws of the Empire relating to the military service and conscription, together with the prevailing fear of further Continental wars, stimulate emigration more than all other considerations combined. Some authorites place the economic value of each immigrant as a factor in the productive power of the country at $1,125. Others consider this too high, and fix it at $800, while other statisticians reach still different results. It is probable that the value of the average unskilled immigrant has somewhat declined of late years, in consequence of the plethora of unemployed labor and the obstinacy with which Irish and other unskilled laborers persist in concentrating themselves in large cities instead of scattering through the country, where agricultural labor is so much wanted. This suggestive aspect of the emigration question is worthy of more complete investigation.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Times*, writing from Rome, says that all through Italy public opinion is daily becoming more and more favorable to having elementary instruction carried on exclusively in the municipal schools. This means the destruction of the old system of teaching (with reading, writing, and arithmetic) the Roman Catholic catechism, with the supervision of the priest. What is clamored for by the Catholics of New York and other cities of this country, under the title of "parochial schools," is what has been tried and is now condemned by the Italians. This, certainly, should operate as an incitement to us to keep, at all hazards, the inculcation of sectarian dogmas out of our public schools.

Atlantic City.

The season is advancing so favorably now that the thoughts of our citizens naturally turn toward the watering places. Of these the nearest seaside resort is Atlantic City, the terminus of the Camden and Atlantic Railroad, purely a creation of Philadelphia capital and enterprise, and popular with the masses of our citizens. Last season one hundred and forty frame houses were built at Atlantic, and this spring building is again quite active. Many of the new cottages are quite handsome and expensive; a considerable number of the best class of boarding houses have been built, and some important additions have been made to the hotel accommodations. Thus Atlantic City has become a community settled and permanent in character, with a well organized social tone, substantial churches and other institutions and both culture and taste. It is a pleasant, as well as a comfortable resort. There is good fishing both in the inlet and at sea, and there are pleasant drives and promenades. *Philadelphia North American.*

THE cold weather did not kill the grasshoppers. Those of last year died on the western border of Missouri on their way East, but the warm temperature of the past week reveals myriads of their offspring emerging from the ground, apparently waiting the proper time to begin operations. The St Louis *Republican* says that in some localities they disappear after exhibiting themselves for a time, and it's augured they die. Some farmers are doing what they can to help them off; one drives them into furrows plowed for the purpose, and then covers them up with another furrow; another drives them into heaps and burns them with straw faggots; and another rolls them to death in his field with a common roller. They have appeared in Cass county, Missouri, in strong force, but as yet have done no great amount of damage. It is the question of what they will do that causes anxiety among the farmers. The general opinion is that they are so weakened by their long flight from the mountain that they will perish before the summer.

A ladies' rowing club has just been organized at Astoria, Oaregon.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

In England the fruit prospects this year are, on the whole, most cheering.

Nevada, too, is overrun with emigrants who are vainly seeking employment.

Oregon has been warmly rained upon, and is confident of having great grain crops.

The only St. Louis distillery that escaped seizure in the recent raid, belongs to a Mr. Cæsar.

Unmistakable evidences of petroleum have just been discovered near Glasgow, Kentucky.

The net earnings of the Erie Railroad last year were $847,000 less than the interest on its bonded debt.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church South will be in session at St. Louis this week.

The Cincinnati reservoir will not hold water, and they talk of turning it into a magnificent music hall.

A valuable stew. Sixty thousand ounces of gold were melted in the mint at San Francisco last Thursday.

The Mennonites are about to establish a publishing house at Elkhart, Indiana, with a capital stock of $20,000.

White and red and green and black and brown watermelons can be had at Key West—and so can the yellow fever.

Yeast is the name of a gentleman just admitted to the bar in Cincinnati. He should at least be able to raise bread.

Quite a number of Democratic papers appear to think that frauds in whisky are proper as long as any tax is placed on it.

Ex-Governor Powers, of Mississippi, was married to his first Born, the other day. That was her name, and she was an Ohio lady.

The present distress in New York city is said to be very great. It never witnessed, in the month of May, so much misery as it does now.

An old cannon has just been dug out of the mud off a wharf at Boston, near the spot where that gunpowder tea was thrown overboard.

It is a notable and not altogether creditable sign of the times that a distinct reaction is beginning in England in favor of the prize-ring.

How very thoughtful! In Texas it is kindly intended to relieve colored men from the cost and care that come from serving on juries.

The New South Wales Parliament has included in the Supply bill £5,000 for the representation of the colony at our Centennial Exhibition.

Out of sixty thousand houses in New York city, two thousand are now to-let, the worst features being found in what were called the best spots.

England proposes to abolish the traffic in church livings, and to vest in the parishioners the inalienable right of presentation when a vacancy occurs.

A sweet thing in diamonds is expected at an early day, some person having discovered—or claiming to have discovered a way to make them out of sugar.

There are eight millions of German-speaking people in the United States, and they have three hundred newspapers and periodicals in their own language.

The fate of the Schiller did not deter twenty-five hundred people from leaving New York last Saturday, and over four thousand persons during the week.

Newspapers can be sent after July 1st from the United States to any part of Europe at the rate of two cents each, if they do not weigh over four ounces.

Cincinnati's great musical festival is over, but she refuses to sing small. The construction of a mammoth musical hall, to cost half a million dollars, is now agitated.

From every section of Georgia, according to the local papers, the cheering tidings come of unexceptionable stands of corn and cotton and promising crops of small grain.

What the sentimentalists call "legal murder" has been abolished in Iowa, but illegal murder seems to have taken its place. The benefit of the change is not apparent.

The largest pew revenue in the world. The sum realized for the rental of pews in Plymouth church, Brooklyn, including premiums, thus far during the present year, is $71,165.

Cleveland pays $1,900, Boston $13,035, St. Louis $17,500, and Baltimore $19,220 more annually on police account than Cincinnati, which is a fair showing to the credit of the latter.

The largest gas-meter in the world has just been built in London. Its capacity is the enormous quantity of 150,000 cubic feet per hour, and its measuring drum delivers for each revolution 1,000 feet.

The first number of the St. Louis *Globe Democrat* made its appearance yesterday. It will be printed as a folio until arrangements can be made for enlarging when it will assume the quarto form.

A second successful voyage by an iron turret ship is now reported. The monster English war-ship Devastation crossed the Bay of Biscay successfully in very heavy weather, recently, and proved a good sea vessel.

The latest stroke of "original journalism" on the part of the New York *Herald* is the announcement that the revivalists Moody and Sankey are in the pay of Barnum, and that the great showman has become the apostle of a new religion.

A new method of committing suicide is to put a giant powder torpedo in your mouth, and fire it off with a fuse and detonator. The contrivance worked admirably in the case of the man who tried it in California last week.

PERSONAL.

The legal proceedings to prevent Messrs. Moody and Sankey, the American revivalists, from using Her Majesty's Opera House, in London, were instituted by the lessee of seventeen stalls and three boxes, who made a profit by reletting them.

Misses Gerow and Mosher, two pretty Quaker girls, natives of New York, having received instructions in a Boston hospital for some years past, recently graduated in medicine from a Michigan University, and expect to begin practice in a short time in Poughkeepsie.

It is intimated that General Logan will make a reply to that part of General Sherman's recently published memoirs which refers to himself and General Frank Blair as mere political generals. Logan regards Sherman's criticism as impugning his abilities as a soldier, if not his courage.

The Recorder's court at Galveston, Tex. as, was recently invoked in some trouble on a respectable old lady who, as a witness, was required to repeat the profane language of a negress. But the old lady would not swear, even in that vicarious way, and the bad language was finally written down at a venture by the Prosecuting Attorney, when the old lady testified to its substantial accuracy.

It is said that President Grant is somewhat surprised that Sherman should appropriate to himself the credit of planning the campaigns which finally led to the overthrow of the rebellion. The book is likely to provoke explanations and replies, not only from the friends of the President but also from a number of persons who served in the army under Sherman, and who feel aggrieved at the manner in which he has treated them.

It is said Mrs. Tilton is engaged in the composition of a novel founded on the incidents of her late domestic life. Mrs. Ovington's, in quiet seclusion. She receives very few visitors and passes her time between reading and writing. She is reported as being about to keep a boarding house through the summer up the Hudson. Letters of sympathy and offers of assistance have been received by her from different parts of the country. She is in good health and not much depressed in spirits.

They have a story in Brooklyn that Mr. Beecher intends to leave for Europe and the Holy Land about the 1st of September. When the trial is over he will resume the writing of his "Life of Christ." To verify certain parts of it, to give it fidelity in the details of descriptions of the Mount of Zion, the Mount of Olives, the hill of Calvary, the Garden of Gethsemane, etc., is the purpose of this journey to ancient Palestine. It will be a long trip and may extend over a year.

THE New York *Coal and Iron Record* predicts that bituminous coal will be the great manufacturers' fuel of the future. The *Record* believes that this fuel will, in a few years, take the lead in the markets, and monopolize the greatest attention from coal merchants. Already the trade is assuming large proportions; anthracite coal is destined in time to be used in small quantities, and only as a luxury as a house fuel, in consequence of its beauty and cleanliness.

M. PELIGOT, a French chemist, claims to have discovered the lost art of producing the beautiful shade of blue which is so conspicuous in many of the ancient ornaments found in Egypt. He analyzed some of the enamel, then by synthetical experiments has succeeded in ascertaining the proportions of silica, oxide of copper, lime and soda that will produce the marvellous compound.

THE OHIO RIVER.

Plans Proposed for Its Improvement.

BY COL. W. E. MERRILL, U. S. ENGINEERS.

NO. I.

The rapid development of the United States in all the elements of material wealth has lately brought into great prominence the heavy annual loss which all sections of the country sustain in mutually exchanging their surplus products. The charges that must be paid on any article, in order to carry it from the producer, who wishes to dispose of it, to the consumer, who needs it for his own uses, must evidently be added to the original cost of production, in order to get the total cost of the article at the place of sale. If competition, or other cause, prevents the producer from making this addition, then the value of his product is reduced exactly that much.

As a general rule, when additional labor is expected on any product, the intrinsic value of that product is proportionally increased—as when pig iron is turned into nails; but money expended for transportation adds nothing whatever to the value of the thing transported; it merely moves it from a place where it is surplus to a place where it is wanted and will be purchased. The cost of transportation is a tax which must be paid either by the producer or the consumer, but by whomsoever paid it is a dead loss, insomuch as it gives no return in an increase of valuation. While every one recognizes that transportation charges are unavoidable under the most favorable circumstances, it is equally recognized that the best interests of the country demand that such charges should be the lowest possible, anything in excess of this being a loss that is pure waste, inasmuch as it could have been avoided.

The utmost possible cheapness in transportation is therefore, a matter of prime importance to a community as whatever is saved in this respect is a permanent addition to the national wealth. Hence the popular cry for cheap transportation, which has at last obtained such strength as to compel recognition from the National Legislature.

It is generally conceded that a ton of merchandise can be transported one mile by water at a much less cost than one mile by rail, and therefore, the national desire for cheap transportation has found expression in a demand for an improvement of our national waterways, and for the creation of artificial ones.

The Senate Committee on Transportation (Report 307, Senate, Forty-third Congress, First Session), recommended to Congress and to the people the improvement of four great routes of water communication between the West and the seaboard:

1. The Mississippi river.
2. The route by the great lakes and the New York canals.
3. The route by the Ohio and Kanawha rivers, and the James river and Kanawha canal, including the radical improvement of the Ohio from Pittsburgh to Cairo.
4. The route by the Ohio and Tennessee rivers, and thence, by canal, through Alabama and Georgia.

Of these four routes the third is the one that specially interests the manufacturers of Pittsburgh, and it is of this alone that I will speak.

DESCRIPTION OF THE OHIO RIVER.

The Ohio river from Pittsburgh to its mouth is 967 miles in length, as measured along the banks, and contains 200 bars or shoal places that give trouble in low water. The depth on these bars in dead low water varies from twelve inches near Pittsburgh to twenty inches between Evansville and Cairo. The width of the river at ordinary stages varies from 1,200 to 1,500 feet near its head, and from 3,500 to 5,000 feet near its mouth. The greatest rise of floods is as follows:

Pittsburgh	35½	feet in 1832
Steubensville	45	feet in 1832
Parkersburg	50	feet in 1832
Cincinnati	66	feet in 1832
Foot of the Falls	66½	feet in 1832
Evansville	49	feet in 1832
Cairo	52	feet in 1832

The river is so well known to the readers of the COMMERCIAL that further details are unnecessary. The Senate Transportation Committee, in speaking of the Ohio river, use the following language: "The improvement of the Ohio river in such manner as to secure from Pittsburgh to Cairo a depth of six feet of water at all seasons, is believed by the committee to be one of the most important works for which the National Government can appropriate money."

Having been in charge of the Ohio river for the past five years, and having devoted much time and study to the subject of river improvement, I think it important to lay before the parties interested in the navigation of the Ohio a brief summary of my experience, and of the information which I have gathered about river engineering as practiced abroad. Once in every year it is my duty to present such statements to Congress, but such reports are seldom or never circulated among those to whom they would be most useful and interesting. I gladly avail myself of the columns of the COMMERCIAL to give my own views and conclusions, and, at the same time, to keep before the people the great subject of the radical improvement of what appears to me to be the most valuable river navigation in the United States.

Rivers are naturally divided into the two great classes of tidal and non-tidal. In tidal rivers the flow is sometimes up stream and sometimes down stream. In non-tidal rivers the current is generally in one direction. The principles that govern the improvement of tidal rivers are very different from those that control non-tidal ones, and as the Ohio is of the latter class, this discussion will be strictly limited to non-tidal rivers.

In improving a non-tidal river two distinct and opposite methods may be followed. The first is to leave the river always open, and to endeavor either to increase its supply of water, or to so control the natural supply as to secure greater depth over the shoals. This is what is called the improvement of the natural navigation. The second method is to secure a sufficiency of water by damming the river. This makes an artificial navigation, and is technically called "canalizing" the river, or, in other words, making it like a canal.

POLITICAL.

State.

A correspondent of the Reading *Eagle*, who has interviewed Governor Bigler, says he will not consent to run as a candidate for Governor. He is giving his whole time and attention to the great Centennial Exposition.

Hon. Orange Noble, Liberal Republican and ex-Mayor of Erie, is urged for the Democratic nomination for State Treasurer, in view of the probable nomination of Mayor Rawle, of the same city. Benjamin Whitman, the able editor of the Erie *Observer*, has also been named, but he does not desire to be considered as a candidate.

There is no doubt that Governor Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, will be renominated by the Republicans. His official record is without a stain, and his administration has commanded the admiration even of his political opponents. Republicans are confident he can sweep the State by a large majority.—*Cleveland Herald.*

The *Bucks County Intelligencer* says that the statement, which originally appeared in this paper, that James Black, of Lancaster (leader of the Temperance forces and their standing candidate for Governor), votes the Democratic ticket while professing to be a Prohibitionist, does him injustice. We give him the benefit of the doubt. One thing is certain—Black was an original Democrat—and is now running the Temperance machine in the interest of the Democratic party—his first love.—*Reading Times.*

It is understood that the Liberal Republicans will meet sometime in August at Williamsport to consider the propriety of nominating candidates for Governor and State Treasurer. As Andy Curtin, Eli K. Slifer, A. K. McClure and Rauch, of Lancaster, comprise the Liberal party in this State, the proceedings of the convention will be looked for with interest. The organization compelled the Democrats to nominate Horace Greeley, and there is no telling what four such men as those above named may be able to accomplish.—*Philadelphia Sunday Republic.*

General.

The Governor of Oregon will order a special election on the 25th of October to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman Ladow.

Colonel J. A. Joyce was announced for a lecture in St. Louis on "What I Know About Collecting the Revenue." Colonel Joyce is a revenue officer, and is said to have been in the pay of the whisky ring. He has business in Canada now, and his lecture has been postponed.

AT a recent meeting of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia, Mr. Willard gave two instances of the brittleness of iron under the prevailing low temperature of last February. In breaking up an old locomotive the cutting off of the rivet heads, which usually requires heavy sledging, was effected by a single blow, as if they were made of cast iron. In the forging of a long steamboat shaft of the best hammered iron, which hung balanced in a crane, the hammering of the heated end caused vibration in the overhung end —harmless in ordinary temperatures—but at ten degrees Fahrenheit, sufficient to cause the beam to break sharp near the point of support. The annealed iron of this shaft shows no loss of tensile strength at low temperatures under a gradual stress, but all experience shows great loss of *body* or ability to resist a blow.

AN ENGINEER on the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad, recently had his attention attracted to a piece of maple wood lying on the tender of his engine, which, on being examined, was found to have the distinct impression of an autumn leaf of variegated colors running through several sections, upon each of which the impression of the leaf is distinct in its color and in its most delicate fibre. It is supposed to have been made by lightning, but being so deeply impressed and so vivid in color, must be the result of a process essentially different from photography. There is a hint for a new invention.

A VALUABLE SERVANT.

A Imitative Celestial.

The San Francisco *Bulletin* says that a family in the southern part of that city recently engaged the service of a Celestial domestic whose intelligence and industry were highly recommended. He was a reformed heathen. He was a sleek fellow, forty years of age, and when he smiled, which he always did on the slightest provocation, his face was the personification of innocence. Such was the cheerfulness of his disposition that he was deemed a valuable acquisition to the household. He was gentle with the children, and partook of their childish glee over innocent sports. He was kind to the kitten and other family pets. The Chinese have justly earned a wide notoriety for cruelty. But this Chinaman was a notable exception. Why, he not only rebuked the big boy of the family when he detected him in the act of dropping a fine stream of boiling water on a rat which had been caught in the family rat trap, but he actually released the rat and was nearly overcome with emotion. Last Saturday the lady of the house decided that the matting on the floor of the spacious kitchen needed renewing. The old matting, having been patched, was a sorry sight; in fact it appeared to be made up of a dozen of irregular pieces. The bright new matting was sent to the house, and John was requested to substitute it for the frayed and patched stuff. The family accepted an invitation to visit the interior and left John a clear field for his operations. They returned to find that the new matting had been laid with methodical precision. There was the new matting to show for itself. But what a show! John had cut it into irregular pieces, patched it, and frayed the edges, until it was a counterpart of the old matting in everything but age.

PRESIDENT GORMAN, of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, doesn't make a very good showing in his report for the month of April last, submitted to the Board of Directors at Annapolis, last week. In it he says that the coal tonnage for April was 43,278 tons, and the concerned revenue for the same month amounted to $26,759 10, showing a decrease as compared with the same period last year of 37,78s tons, and $24,480 20 in the revenue. This decrease, he thinks, is owing principally to the general stagnation in trade, and to some extent to the difficulty experienced in fixing the rates of transportation for the season. He throws in the usual cheerful prediction that "it is hoped and expected that there will be an active trade for the remainder of the season."

The Voice of the Great West.

The voice of the great West accords to Hostetter's Stomach Bitters the foremost place among specifics for malarial disease, and this opinion is echoed wherever upon this continent the Bitters have been introduced as a remedy for intermittent and remittent fevers. Those maladies being the peculiar scourge of vast regions of country in the Western and Southwestern States, it is not surprising that the Bitters should be the great medicinal staple of such localities, or that their inhabitants should regard this article as indispensable in the household. The experience of the Western emigrant proves that it is the very best means of acclimating him to unaccustomed air or water; and old residents of fever and ague regions say that it is the only thing that protects them with certainty against the visitation of miasmatic disease. An equally high estimate is placed upon its virtues as a remedy for stomach, bowel and bilious complaints, and as a general tonic and corrective.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1875 - $778,251 56.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.
GEO. A. BERRY, JOHN H. BAILEY,
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKINSLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. S. Haseltine, John S. Dilworth, F. Ralon, G. Fullmann, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug,
John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,
43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.
W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

CLOTHING.
THE NEW SPRING THINGS
are now being shown at the
MONONGAHELA HOUSE,
by JOHN WANAMAKER & CO.,
Who are represented by
MARION WANAMAKER.

THE CHOICE OF GOODS
Is very large. The measures are taken and forwarded to Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and the article is cut by Custom Cutters and made through the Custom Department in elegant style. The Goods are delivered in Pittsburgh, and may be first tried on and approved of at the Private Rooms in Monongahela House before final delivery.

THE FASHIONS.
All Coats are worn longer. For Dress the style is Double Breast of English origin though improved by American artists. Our French Cutter is a great favorite in making styles for Dress Coats, and the Goods from our Establishment have an "expression" that is not attained in fashioning Clothing except by great study and skill. Pantaloons are worn with less spring and shaped to the body by shrinking and pressing. In the matter of Pants we go upon the idea that there is room for much skill to be displayed in improving the figure. Vests are only changed in lappels and corners, according to style of person to wear the garment.

MATERIALS.
The latest things are new weaves of Box Patterns, Close Checks, Ingenious Diagonals and indistinct patterns of Worsteds and Smoothfaced Goods, whilst the sober mixtures for quiet people are brought forward in new colorings and great variety.

THE CUSTOM DEPARTMENT
Is equipped with the best of Cutters, who are fully prepared to do everything desirable for either Gentlemen, Youths or Children.

REMARKS.
Pittsburghers visiting Philadelphia are invited to look in at our House, next door to the Continental Hotel, and see the great facilities we have for filling the orders now solicited.

DRY GOODS.
Jas. Caldwell AND Co
Have Just Opened at their
NEW STORE,
115 AND 117 Federal St.,
ALLEGHENY,
A LARGE AND VERY ATTRACTIVE STOCK OF
SEASONABLE
DRY GOODS,
Which Buyers will find well worthy of Inspection before making their purchases.
BLACK SILKS,
Of the Most Popular Brands, ranging in price from 75 cents per yard to $3 00.
FANCY SILKS,
IN STRIPES, CHECKS AND PLAIN COLORS.
ALL THE NEW DESIGNS IN
DRESS GOODS,
For Suits and Costumes.
BLACK DRESS FABRICS,
IN GREAT VARIETY.
ALL-WOOL CASHMERES,
SILK WARP CASHMERES,
HENRIETTA CLOTHS,
BOMBAZINES, TAMISE CLOTHS,
WOOL DELAINES,
MOHAIR LUSTRES,
BRILLIANTEENS AND ALPACAS.
Black Grenadines & Hernanis,
NEW STYLES IN
Spring Shawls, Suits and Costumes
The NEW CURTAINS AND TABLIER, made up and in Patterns.
HOSIERY, GLOVES, LACES and EMBROIDERIES.
NOTTINGHAM AND TAMBOURD LACE CURTAINS.
100 BLACK ALPACA SUITS, at Ten Dollars each, a Great Bargain.
Nos. 115 and 117 Federal Street,
ALLEGHENY.

DRY GOODS.
SATURDAY, MAY 15th,
AT
WM. SEMPLE'S,
165, 167 and 169
FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY
NEW SPRING AND SUMMER
DRESS GOODS!
All Desirable Materials, Styles and Colors,
AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES.
Special Bargains—Black Alpacas at 25c.
Special Bargains—Black Alpacas at 31 and 37½c.
Special Bargains—Black Alpacas at 44 and 50c.
Special Bargains—Black Alpacas at 62½c and 75c.
The above line of Black Mohair Alpacas is unsurpassed in this country for good value.
Extra Good Bargains in Black Cashmeres, at 62½c, 75c, 90c and $1 00.
Black Hernanias and Grenadines,
Decided Bargains in All Qualities.
LARGE ARRIVALS THIS WEEK OF
New Invisible Plaid Dress Goods,
New Mohairs, Poplins and Pongees,
New Serges, Diagonals and Cashmeres.
New Linen Lustres,
New Fine Dress Goods, great variety.
New Mourning Dress Goods.
ALL THE POPULAR BARGAINS IN
DRESS GOODS,
FROM 10 CENTS TO 25 CENTS PER YARD.
Black and Colored Dress Silks,
Full Supply of the Many Extraordinary Bargains.
All Qualities Black Dress Silks, from 81 to $1.
Plain Colored Dress Silks, much under value.
Striped Dress Silks, &c.
Ladies' Ready-Made Suits!
Latest Styles—Made in Best Manner.
New Cashmere Jackets and Sacques,
New Lace Sacques and Jackets.
Ladies' Linen and White Suits!
STRICTLY BUT ONE
CARPETS.
CARPETS!
APRIL 1, 1875.
McFarland, Collins AND Co
NEW SPRING PATTERNS,
Bought at the Lowest Point reached for many years, and For Sale at Prices to Suit these Times.
New No. 101 Fifth Ave,
Next to U. S. Custom House and Postoffice, Second Floor.
CARPETS!
OLIVER M'CLINTOCK & CO.
Have Opened their New and Complete Assortment of WILTONS, VELVETS, BRUSSELS, TAPESTRY BRUSSELS, RUGS, &c., directly from Europe, which they offer as low as they can be purchased in New York.
Their New Stock of THREE-PLIES, TWO-PLIES, WOOLEN INGRAINS, RAG and HEMP CARPETS, and DRUGGETS; also, OIL CLOTHS, SHADES, MATTINGS, MATS, &c., is not surpassed in variety of Quality and Pattern, or in Lowness of Price.
Their Corps of Upholsterers do the work efficiently and with dispatch.
23 FIFTH AVENUE.
CARPETS!
The Best Styles,
Choicest Colors,
Latest Novelties,
Lowest Prices!
NEW SPRING STYLES
SILK AND FUR
HATS!
FOR
Wholesale & Retail Trade,
JUST RECEIVED AT
Palmer's Hat House,
151 WOOD ST.
PATENTS.
Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets.
NO PATENT—NO PAY,
Send for a Circular.

HOTELS.
SHIELDS HOUSE,
NO. 7 SIXTH STREET,
Near Suspension Bridge, Pittsburgh, Pa.,
STABLMAN & McCOY,
PROPRIETORS,
Has recently been THOROUGHLY RENOVATED and REFITTED and all the modern improvements added.
Board per day, $2 00; per week, with fire, $8 00, without fire, $7 00.
The patrons of this House are assured that no attention necessary to their comfort will be overlooked.

EDUCATIONAL.
Allegheny Commercial School,
In Girard Bank Building, Allegheny,
W. W. McCLELLAND, Principal
And Teacher of Penmanship.
PROF. S. D. EVERHART, of the Pittsburgh High School, Teacher of BOOKKEEPING and COMMERCIAL CALCULATIONS.
EVENING CLASSES 7 TO 9 P. M.
AFTERNOON CLASSES, 2 TO 4 P. M.
TEACHERS' CLASSES on SATURDAY, 9 A. M.
Person s desiring to fit themselves for Teachers can obtain a thorough knowledge of Plain and

NOTICE TO BONDHOLDERS.

PARTIES DESIRING TO SELL
Allegheny Valley R. R. Income Bonds,
Will find it to their interest to call on or address
G. B. HILL,
No. 53 FOURTH AVE., Pittsburgh.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, May 17, 1875.

In monetary and general trade circles we continue to quote dullness and inactivity with but little prospect of any material improvement in the immediate future.

Matters have settled into the quiet jog not of the summer, and we may expect things to move in their usual routine until fall. That the general depression of business is not to be entirely attributed to our monetary system, as resumptionists and currency reformers would have us believe, is seen by that fact that there is almost as great a depression in business in countries whose monetary systems are based on gold as in our own. It is stated that the production of pig iron in Scotland was less in 1874 than in any of the last twenty years. Out of 132 furnaces, nearly one hundred were out of blast and the production was 200,000 tons less than in 1870.

The importation of railroad iron into Russia, notwithstanding the extension of roads in that country, was 2,000,000 tons less than in 1873. The steel works of Krupp & Co., in Prussia, have discharged 1,000 hands, and the largest manufactory of engines in Austria 2,000 hands from want of orders. These facts all go to show that the evils under which we are suffering are not local, but extend with greater or less severity throughout the commercial world. Although these facts may not help us to improve our condition, yet, as misery loves company, it is as well to know that we are no worse off than our neighbors.

—At the different Philadelphia shipyards here is considerable activity, but less than at this period last year.

—The branch of the Deutsche Bank at Shanghae will be discontinued next June, and the branch at Yokehama be able to close in consequence of stagnation of business.

—A few more samples of the Kentucky clip have been received, which shows up in excellent staple and very fair condition. The manufacturers who have looked them over consider them likely to bring 40 to 45c, the latter value for the best average, but the dealers prefer 48 to 50c for such lots. The Philadelphia and Pittsburgh buyers have been well represented all through this blue grass country, and by their active competition for theses forced values rather above their level. The very best wools, as shown, will pay a good profit, but the lower grades will "shed slow" all through the season.

—The Texas clip is now being packed, and a few early mail samples have been shown. These would suggest that these wools will range from 30 to 35c, the latter covering the very best grades, while an occasional packet would suggest that a line of fleeces might be secured worth 37½c to 38c.—*N. Y. Bulletin.*

—The Comptroller of the Currency made a strong effort last winter to secure from the State Legislatures, particularly those in the West, the enactment of laws requiring State banks, trust and loan companies, and savings banks to submit to the Governors of the States in which they were situated annual reports of their condition. He had previously made a similar request in an official circular, but without obtaining the desired result. Last winter he secured the co-operation of Senators and Representatives, who joined with the Comptroller in the endeavor to secure from their respective State Legislatures such laws. The Comptroller says that he has received no notice that his object will be attained; that the legislative sessions in most of the States have been terminated, so that there is no hope that the Comptroller will be able at present to compile statistics giving any hint of the importance of the institutions, or even in addition, by him to communicate such information to the next Congress. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey responded to the Comptroller's official circular, some of the States giving full information, others only partial; but sufficient facts and figures were obtained to show the great importance of these institutions in the monetary affairs of the country. There is no doubt that the belief widely prevailing among the managers of these institutions, that the object of the National Government in seeking information respecting the condition of these State and savings banks is for the purpose of imposing a Federal tax, has not a little to do in keeping back the much coveted annual reports of their condition.

OFFICE OF TRACK & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, May 15, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been fairly active during the day with somewhat severe fluctuations in prices. The sudden advance in Union Pacific in spite of the decline in Lake Shore has clearly demonstrated that the parties most interested in Union Pacific are the masters of the situation, and can control their stock without reference to the condition of the general market.

There were strenuous efforts made to break the market this afternoon, and Lake Shore was attacked as will Pacific Mail with a view to this end; the market consequently closed to-night in a very unsettled and feverish state, as if another attack would be made upon the general market on Monday, in order to admit of changes having been made favorable to short terms; but at any decided decline from to-night's closing prices, and on an increase of earnings for the first two weeks in May of $8,000, compared with the same time in 1874, Transactions $34,000 shares of which 21,000 Pacific were mail, 6,000 Western Union, 18,000 Northwestern and 2,000 Rock Island, 7,000 Paul, 11,000 Lake Shore, 12,000 Ohio and Miss-issippi 20,000 Union Pacific.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
Canton	66	Do preferred	57
W. U. Tel	76¾	Wabash	11¼
Quicksilver	11	Do preferred	19¾
Adams Express	96½	Fort Wayne	99½
Wells Fargo Ex	89½	Terre Haute	5
American Express	54	Do preferred	20
U. S. Express	50½	Chicago & Alton	103
Pacific Mail	36¾	Do preferred	110
New York Central	107½	Cleve., Col. & Cin	25
Erie	25¾	Clev., Col. & Cin	55
Do preferred	39¾	Burlington & Q	112
Harlem	124	Illinois Central	97¾
Do preferred	134	C. C. & I. C	5¾
Mich. Central	98½	Illinois Central	97¾
Cleveland & Pitts.	92	Atlantic & Pac. Tel	24½
North western	53¾	Union Pacific stk.	76
Do preferred	76½	Central Pacific bonds	86
Rock Island	105	Union Pacific bds.	101½
N. J. Central	113	Del. & Lack	89
St. Paul	35¾	Bankers' Bills	489

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	124	5-20's, 1867	123¾
5-20's, 1862	118¾	5-20's, 1868	118¾
5-20's, 1864	118	10-40's	115¾
5-20's, 1865	119¾	New 5's	116¼
5-20's, 1865, new	119¾	Currency 6's	122½

STATE BONDS.			
Missouri 6's	102	Virginia, old	31
Tennessee, old	59½	N. Carolina, old	31
Tennessee, new	59½	N. Carolina, new	31
Virginia, new	34		

Detroit.

DETROIT, May 17.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull and drooping; extra 1 at 97½; No. 1, at 97¾@ 98c; 2 red, 93c. Corn steady and in moderate demand at 77½c. Oats quiet at 67½c. Clover seed 9 @10.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, May 17, 1875.

There was a satisfactory wholesale and jobbing business transacted in grain, produce, grocery and provision circles to-day, while the wholesale dry goods, boots and shoes and general merchandise trades were quite active. In lumber, hardware and building materials there was less activity and the feeling was generally one of dullness with the depression before noted still ruling in prices. Glass was moderately active, while bar iron moves steadily at former quotations. There was no marked change to note from the condition of affairs formerly noticed.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,134	Apples, bbls	120
Cheese, lbs	25,000	Corn, bush	3,350
Oats, bush	4,146	Butter, pkgs	55
Bacon, tes	111	Hay, bales	60
Potatoes, bush	1,200	Barley, bush	1,575

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator:

Breadstuffs and Produce.

GRAIN—The market was moderately active to-day, with prices generally steady. Prices were generally easier except corn, which is a little easier under liberal receipts. We quote choice Kentucky and Michigan white winter wheat, 1st 95@1 00 per bushel; Ohio and Illinois do $1 40@1 45; Ohio and Illinois amber $1 37@1 40; Ohio and Pennsylvania red winter $1 34@1 37. Choice spring wheat rules nominally at $1 20. Corn was tolerably active at rather easier prices. We heard of offerings of shelled at 85½c. We quote shelled at 87c for yellow; 86@ 87c for high mixed; 86@86c for low mixed. We quote car at 83@86c for mixed and yellow. Oats are in light supply and steady at 85@87c. We quote at 77@78c for prime white; 75@76c for Ohio white; 76@77c for mixed. Rye is in good demand but only at $1 35@1 39 per bushel. Barley is wholly nominal. Jobbing prices rule 5@15c above our quotations.

FLOUR—Trade is active and prices are steady. We quote the wholesale prices of the local millers as follows: No. 1 white wheat flour at $5 50 ₰ bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $5 30; red wheat flour $5 40; in sacks 30c off ₰ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are firm and buoyant, as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $7 00@7 50; Wisconsin $6 00@6 25; Minnesota $5 25@6 00; red winter wheat flour $5 50@6 75; rye flour $5 00; Graham flour $5 25@5 75; self-raising flour, in 6 ₰ packages, $5 25 ₰ drum packages; cornmeal $3 25; oatmeal $5 00@6 00.

HAY—There is a good demand at easy prices. We quote prime timothy, on truck, at $22 00@23 00 ₰ ton; No. 2 do $20@21 00; mixed prairie $16 00@18 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $24@26 00. Loose hay is selling at $27 00@28 00 for No. 1; $25 00@27 00 baled do.

APPLES—The market continues strong for best grades. We quote at $5 25@5 50 for choice sound apples; poor to medium grades are in little request and neglected at $2 00@2 50 for inferior common have no value, and cannot be sold at any price.

BUTTER—New dairy rolls are quoted at 28@ 30c ₰ lb; prime 25@27c lb; choice packed are overabundant, and difficult to sell at a range of 18@20c.

CHEESE—Old cheese are scarce and in strong demand. We quote at 13½@14c ₰ lb for Ohio factory; New York Goshen and Western reserve 16@17c ₰ lb; Limburger dull at 12@ 14c. New cheese is also in better demand, and, in quality, is better than expected. The very best goods, as shown, will pay a good profit, but the lower grades will "shed slow" all through the season.

The Texas clip is now being packed, and a few early mail samples have been shown. These would suggest that these wools will range from 30 to 35c, the latter covering the very best grades, while an occasional packet would suggest that a line of fleeces might be secured worth 37½c to 38c.—*N. Y. Bulletin.*

—The Comptroller of the Currency made a strong effort last winter to secure from the State Legislatures, particularly those in the West, the enactment of laws requiring State banks, trust and loan companies, and savings banks to submit to the Governors of the States in which they were situated annual reports of their condition. He had previously made a similar request in an official circular, but without obtaining the desired result. Last winter he secured the co-operation of Senators and Representatives, who joined with the Comptroller in the endeavor to secure from their respective State Legislatures such laws. The Comptroller says that he has received no notice that his object will be attained; that the legislative sessions in most of the States have been terminated, so that there is no hope that the Comptroller will be able at present to compile statistics giving any hint of the importance of the institutions, or even in addition, by him to communicate such information to the next Congress. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey responded to the Comptroller's official circular, some of the States giving full information, others only partial; but sufficient facts and figures were obtained to show the great importance of these institutions in the monetary affairs of the country. There is no doubt that the belief widely prevailing among the managers of these institutions, that the object of the National Government in seeking information respecting the condition of these State and savings banks is for the purpose of imposing a Federal tax, has not a little to do in keeping back the much coveted annual reports of their condition.

OFFICE OF TRACK & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, May 15, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been fairly active during the day with somewhat severe fluctuations in prices. The sudden advance in Union Pacific in spite of the decline in Lake Shore has clearly demonstrated that the parties most interested in Union Pacific are the masters of the situation, and can control their stock without reference to the condition of the general market.

There were strenuous efforts made to break the market this afternoon, and Lake Shore was attacked as will Pacific Mail with a view to this end; the market consequently closed in a very unsettled and feverish state, as if another attack would be made upon the general market on Monday, in order to admit of changes having been made favorable to short terms; but at any decided decline from to-night's closing prices, and on an increase of earnings for the first two weeks in May of $8,000, compared with the same time in 1874, Transactions $34,000 shares of which 21,000 Pacific were mail, 6,000 Western Union, 18,000 Northwestern and 2,000 Rock Island, 7,000 Paul, 11,000 Lake Shore, 12,000 Ohio and Miss-is-ippi 20,000 Union Pacific.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
Canton	66	Do preferred	57
W. U. Tel	76¾	Wabash	11¼
Quicksilver	11	Do preferred	19¾
Adams Express	96½	Fort Wayne	99½
Wells Fargo Ex	89½	Terre Haute	5
American Express	54	Do preferred	20
U. S. Express	50½	Chicago & Alton	103
Pacific Mail	36¾	Do preferred	110
New York Central	107½	Cleve., Col. & Cin	25
Erie	25¾	Clev., Col. & Cin	55
Do preferred	39¾	Burlington & Q	112
Harlem	124	Illinois Central	97¾
Do preferred	134	C. C. & I. C	5¾
Mich. Central	98½	Illinois Central	97¾
Cleveland & Pitts.	92	Atlantic & Pac. Tel	24½
North western	53¾	Union Pacific stk.	76
Do preferred	76½	Central Pacific bonds	86
Rock Island	105	Union Pacific bds.	101½
N. J. Central	113	Del. & Lack	89
St. Paul	35¾	Bankers' Bills	489

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	124	5-20's, 1867	123¾
5-20's, 1862	118¾	5-20's, 1868	118¾
5-20's, 1864	118	10-40's	115¾
5-20's, 1865	119¾	New 5's	116¼
5-20's, 1865, new	119¾	Currency 6's	122½

STATE BONDS.			
Missouri 6's	102	Virginia, old	31
Tennessee, old	59½	N. Carolina, old	31
Tennessee, new	59½	N. Carolina, new	31
Virginia, new	34		

Detroit.

DETROIT, May 17.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull and drooping; extra 1 at 97½; No. 1, at 97¾@ 98c; 2 red, 93c. Corn steady and in moderate demand at 77½c. Oats quiet at 67½c. Clover seed 9 @10.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, May 17.—The *Courier* says: The market throughout the day was quiet, and was characterized by the dullness continued the past week. United opened at $1 07¾. During the day sales were made as high as $1 08, but in the evening it was weaker, and closed at $1 07¾@1 08. Sales:

200 bbls, upper road, spot.....$1 32¾
500 bbls, Oil City, spot.....1 31¾
500 bbls, River, United, at wells.....1 10
1,000 bbls, River, United, at wells.....1 10
1,000 bbls, River, United, at wells.....1 07½
3,000 bbls, immediate shipment.....1 32¾
1,000 bbls, immediate shipment.....1 32¾

NEW YORK, May 17, closing 15.—Crude in bulk is steadily and fairly lower prices; puts are quoted at 57c for prompt and remainder of this month; 58@59c for June; do in shipping certificates, 57½c. Refined is held a little steadier but is rather quiet; quoted at 12½@ 12¾c for spot, and 12¾@12¾c for June 15th. At Baltimore refined is quoted at 12¾@ 12¾c, and at Philadelphia at 12¾c for spot, and 12½c for June.

TITUSVILLE, May 17.—Quotations are $1 20@ 1 32½.

OIL CITY, May 17.—Market firm at $1 35.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, May 17.—Market quiet at $1 25.

ROUSEVILLE, May 17.—There is no business.

PARKERS, May 17.—United nominally at 107½; shipment nominally at 39@41 32½; market very quiet.

TIDIOUTE, May 17.—Market quiet at $1 00 bid at wells.

PHILADELPHIA, May 17.—Market quiet; standard white 12¾@13½c; crude 7½c; cases 18c; no sales; futures, none offering.

REFINED OIL SHIPPED EAST BY A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	May 14. Bbls.
H W McKelvey	Eagle O W	934
Ira Buchanan	Buchanan & W	611
Eckhart & Frew	Eckhart & Frew	483
H S Stewart	Penn O W	420
H W McKelvey	Empire O W	1,170
O J Greer	Sunbeam O W	220
Total		3,144

Shipper.	Consignee.	May 15. Bbls.
J Bushnell	Model O W	2,132
H W McKelvey	Eagle O W	930
J Bushnell	Brilliant O W	933
Eckhart & Frew	Brilliant O W	924
H W McKelvey	Brilliant O W	1,170
O J Greer	Riverside O W	420
J Speer & Co	Sunbeam O W	326
A B Robinson	Petrolite O W	74
Total		7,033

Shipper.	Consignee.	May 17. Bbls.
J T Stockdale	John P Logan	259
Livingston Bros	Tuscarora & Co	500
Livingston Bros	Warden, F & Co	100
Stewart	J B Tilford & Co	444
Total		1,294

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Union Stock Yards, Allegheny City.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, May 17, 1875.

The market was on the dull order again today, and prices were little, if any, better than those ruling this day one week ago. It will be seen that the arrivals of cattle by rail are over 100 head less than last week. Yet not withstanding this fact, there was but little animation in the market. Butchers will not buy a single bullock more than will run them from week to week, alleging that their sales will not justify them in doing so.

The expected relief that was to come from the return of the men long idle to their avocations to-day, has not yet come, and many not for weeks. The strikers are mostly honest men who have been carried for months by there grocers and landlords, and they owe their support to the first fruits of their return to remunerative toil. This being the case, several pay days must come and go ere these sons of toil will be in a position to go to market with well filled purses. Till then economy must be the watchword.

There were but few hogs offered for sale today and the whole amount offered would not foot up over 150 head. The hog market during the summer will, as usual, rule light. A few hogs were sold to-day at $7 90 per cwt., but the ruling rates for good butchers' stock was $8 00@8 50.

There were not over 400 head of sheep on sale, among the number being a few good wooled which sold up 10 $7 00 per cwt. Prime to 100 lbs. clipped, brought $4 00 to $5 50. There were but few good lambs on sale. We note sales of a few small bunches at $2 50@4 00, as to quality and age. Among the sale of prime sheep made by R. McCaslin was a choice lot of clipped, 100 to 115 lbs, on private terms, supposed to be not less than $5 50 per cwt.

There were a few good veal calves offered and met rather ready sale at prices ranging from $5 50 to $6 50, as to quality.

Stock Received by R&R.

CATTLE.

Below will be found the receipts of cattle over the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, as taken from the books of the company:

Consignees.	Where from.	Cars.	Head.
Kramer & L	Chicago	1	17
J. Shamberg	Chicago	2	35
Shamberg & H	Chicago	1	20
J. Neely	Chicago	1	16
E. Katz	Chicago	1	16
P. Hartman	Chicago	1	18
Holmes, L. & Co	Chicago	2	38
Kahn & Lobeman	Chicago	1	18
Arnold & Wolf	Chicago	1	19
Wolf & Lobeman	Chicago	1	19
Mooneshine & G	Chicago	3	53
F. Beilstein	Chicago	2	34
J. Hunter	Chicago	1	16
Rothchild & Bro	Chicago	1	15
Hass & M	Chicago	1	18
Lowenstein & Z	Chicago	3	54
R. S. Trauerman	Chicago	1	18
J. Strickly	Chicago	1	18
Marks & Bro	Chicago	2	51
J. Polander	Chicago	1	20
Keefer & Gerson	Chicago	1	17
Total this week		34	593

SHEEP.

R. McCaslin	New Castle	1	47

Besides the above numbers of cattle and sheep received by rail, there were a limited number arrived in from the surrounding country, swelling the totals to about the following: Cattle 650, hogs 150, sheep 400 head. Most of the cattle and hogs were disposed of, but a goodly number of cattle would go over, one dealer having a full car unbroken.

It is rumored that certain dealers in cattle contemplate trying their luck in purchasing a few decks in New York and shipping them to Chicago. However, we do not take any stock in the rumor, for the very good reason that bovines are up in the eastern market.

Prices.

The following were the ruling rates of the market to-day:

CATTLE.

Extra, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs	$7 60@7 75
Choice, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs	7 25@7 50
Good, 1,100 to 1,200	6 85@7 00
Fair, 1,000 to 1,100	6 50@6 75
Common	5 50@6 25
Bulls	3 75@4 50
Calves	5 50@6 50

HOGS.

Extra hogs	$8 00@8 10
Choice butchers	7 90@8 00
Fair to good	8 40@7 45

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Prime wooled, 90 to 100 lbs	$5 00@5 50
Prime clipped, 90 to 100 lbs	4 00@5 00
Fair clipped, 80 to 90 lbs	3 50@4 00
Lambs	2 50@4 00

MILK COWS.

Extra milkers	$75 00@85 00
Good milkers	55 00@65 00
Medium	30 00@35 00
Common	20 00@25 00

Union Stock Yards, East Liberty.

In the early part of the day we interviewed the Allegheny stock market, and not finding anything new or startling there, concluded to make a hurried trip to the Central yards. But their our success was, if anything, worse, notwithstanding Monday has been the day, nor would anyone venture to inform us when sales would commence but we opine that about Wednesday things will begin to move. There was some activity in the hog market this morning, some tops going up to within a fraction of $9 00.

We give a few sales of hogs made to-day. One firm made sales of 1,262 head, prices ranging from $8 50@8 75 for Philadelphia tops, and prime Yorkers sold at $8 00@7 80. Another firm sold 14 head, 250 lbs average, at $8 00; 35 head, 170 lbs average, $7 10; 16 head, 160 lbs average, $7 50; 56 head, 225 lbs average, $8 15; 39 head, 200 lbs, $8 00@8 05.

The run thus far has been very light, nor is it likely that it will turn out heavy at the close of the market on Saturday.

[By Associated Press.]

New York.

NEW YORK, May 17.—Beeves—Receipts 4,300 head, making 6,000 for the week, against 9,400 head last week; quality generally fair to good. Demand better than for a number of days; market firm but rather slow at no advance of a strong 5c from last Wednesday and Thursday; choicest lots $13 00@13 25; medium to prime steers $12@12 75; common to good $10@12; extra to good Texan and Cherokee $9 00@12 00; bulls $4 50@5 75, live weight. Sales include 6 cars Illinois steers, 75 cwt, $12 25; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $12 25; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $12 75; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $12 75; 6 cars do, 65 cwt, $11 50; 7 cars do, 75 cwt, $11 75; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $11 75, and 70 cents per head offal; 6 cars do, 85 cwt, $13 25; 10 cars do, 74 cwt, $12 00; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $12 50; 6 cars do, 75 cwt, $12 00; 2 cars do, 6 cwt, $11 00; 5 cars Missouri steers, 65 cwt, $11 75; 7 cars do, 6 cwt, $10 75; 2 cars do, 6 cwt, $10 50; 1 car Cincinnati steers, 75 cwt, $12 00.

Sheep—Receipts yesterday and to-day 3,400 head, making 10,000 head for the week, against 17,500 head last week. Market a shade firmer at $4 75@5 00 for clipped sheep; $5 50@6 00 for unshorn; and $10 00@13 00 for spring lambs. Sales include 4 car loads clipped Ohio sheep, 91 lbs, $5 00; 2 cars do, 90 lbs, $5 37½; 1 car do, 87 lbs, $5 80; 2 cars do, 106 lbs, $5 75; 1 car do, 83 lbs, $5 25; 1 car do, 85 lbs, $5 12½; 2 cars do, 90 lbs, $5 62½; 2 cars do, 98 lbs, $5 75; 2 cars Indiana unshorn sheep, 81 lbs, $5 50; 1 car Kentucky lambs, 41 lbs, $10 00.

Swine—Arrivals 12,170 head, making 30,120 head for the week, against 32,890 head last week. None offered alive; dressed firm at $8 87½.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Receipts 5,500 head. Market active and prices firm and 5c higher; common to good shipping $3 25@5 90; choice to extra $6 00@6 80; stock $3 75@4 25; inferior to good cows $2 50@3 75; sales of choice at $5 00@5 25. Receipts, 2,500 head.

HOGS—Receipts 17,000 head. Market active and firm; common to extra heavy $7 75@8 15; common to good $7 15@8 00; sales mostly at $7 90@7 95; shipments 4,000 head.

SHEEP—Receipts 500 head. Market unchanged.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, May 17.—Cattle—In fair demand; prices a fraction higher; sales of 7,500 head at $7 50@8 00 for extra Pennsylvania and Ohio; $6 50@7 00 for fair to good; $5 00@6 00 for common; $4 00@5 00 for inferior; $7 00@7 50 for choice; $8 00@8 50 for extra; receipts 6,000 head; shipments 2,000 head.

SHEEP—Receipts 5,000 head. Market unchanged.

HOGS—Receipts 5,000 head. Market unchanged.

Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, May 17.—Flour dull; Western superfine $4 50@5 00. Wheat quiet; No. 1 amber Western at $1 40@1 45; No. 2 do, $1 35@1 40. Corn weak; Western mixed 80½@. Oats dull; white 76@78c; mixed 74@75½c. Rye quiet at 1 30@1 32. Provisions dull and unchanged. Pork $22 75. Bulkmeats nominal. Bacon firm; shoulders 12½@13c; clear rib sides 14½@ 15c; clear 15½@16c. Hams dull and lower at $1 22@1 25. Barley firm and unchanged. Oils unchanged. Eggs firm at 15c. Butter—Demand fair and market firm. Pork quiet; offered at $22 00; 2 cars do, 6 cwt, $11 00; 5 cars Missouri steers, 65 cwt, $11 75; 7 cars do, 6 cwt, $10 75; 2 cars do, 6 cwt, $10 50; 1 car Cincinnati steers, 75 cwt, $12 00.

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HOGS—Receipts 5,000 head. Market unchanged.

Greensboro.

GREENSBORO, Pa., May 17, 1875.

River 1 feet 3 inches and stationary. Weather clear.

Brownsville.

BROWNSVILLE, Pa., May 17, 1875.

River stationary; 6 feet 11 inches. Weather clear; thermometer 59 at 7 P. M.

Pomeroy.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

POMEROY, O., May 17, 1875.

Up—John Dippold, with eighteen barges for Brownsville, Pa., and Monongahela. 2. Loaded packets on time. Weather pleasant.

Steubenville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

STEUBENVILLE, O., May 17, 1875.

River falling slowly, with 5 feet 9 inches in the channel. Weather cloudy and cool. Departed—Forest City, Belle Briham, Sam Barcus, Frank Willard, Grand Lake and Emilie Walker.

Wheeling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. VA., May 17, 1875.

Weather clear and pleasant. River 6 feet 11 inches and falling. Departed—Express, Parkersburg. Arrived—Andes.

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—Arrived—Baker, Pittsburgh; Fayette, Peoria; Irondale and Feeling Cairo; St. Genevieve, Vicksburg; Lake Superior, St. Paul; Andes, Gaines; Belle Memphis, Missouri river; Dictator, Illinois river; Laurel, Louisville; Hickory, Tennessee river. Departed—Baker, Pittsburgh; Belle Roy, Keokuk; Chester, Memphis; Fayette, Peoria; Hickory, Burley—Dennison; Lake Superior, Fleming, Dictator, Laurel and Norton, Ore File. River falling. Weather clear and warm

LATER—On Call Board afternoon session was firmer; $1 08@1 08¼@1 07¾. July. Corn 52@52½c June; 52½c July. Oats 36c cash 37c cash; easier and prices unchanged. Lard unchanged.

EVANSVILLE, May 17.—Weather clear and cold; morning pleasant and dry; there was a white frost at daylight; mercury 43 to 70. River 11.10 feet and falling. Departed—Ben Franklin, Morning Star, Peytona and Bowling Green—Down—C. B. Church, Red Cloud and J. D. Parker. Business lively.

For Additional Dispatches see Fourth Page

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

Geneva	M. A. Cox
Bermuda	Donaldson
Elizabeth	Houghton
Mollie Ebert	Batchelier

Departed.

Geneva	M. A. Cox
Elector	Abrams
Elizabeth	Houghton
Maitie Ragon	Williamson
Salt Valley	Sanford

MONONGAHELA—Five feet two inches and falling slowly.

Boats Advertised for This Day.

Brownsville and Geneva.....8 A. M. and 4 P. M.
Jamestown, Mercer and Meadville.....7 A. M.
Cincinnati.....R. W. Skillinger, Russell, 4 P. M.

THE marks last evening indicated five feet two inches, being only a decline of one inch during the past twenty-four hours. The weather during the day was warm. Trade on the landing is improving.

THE Legal Tender will have a new hull built this summer.

DUGAN'S diver, Mr. Guyre, is up at the wreck of the St. Luke.

ALL the Coulson boats have left Yankton for the mountains.

THE steamer Utah is announced to leave St. Louis for this city.

AS USUAL the Maille Ragon left for Wheeling on time with a fair trip.

THE June rise in the Missouri is promised on the 15th of that month.

AMONG the freight list of the City of Quincy was 4,600 bushels of coal.

CAPTAIN D. M. DRYDEN an old time boatman, is visiting his friends in Cincinnati.

WE are indebted to the officers of the steamer Carrie Brooks for favors. Thanks.

CINCINNATI.—The papers report business brisk at the landing. Glad to hear it.

THE new tow boat Champion made a successful trial trip at Cincinnati on Saturday.

THE Louisville *Courier-Journal* says that the model barge on the dam ought to be removed.

THE regular packet Salt Valley, Captain Sanford, left for Ironton and Guyandotte at 4 P. M.

WILLIAM DEMING, of Vermillion, Dakota Territory, says that the citizens of that town approached another flood.

THE famous packet Granite State, Captain Kerr, left Portsmouth yesterday. She will return on her regular day.

WE ARE indebted to the officers of the steamer Mollie Ebert for a manifest. She will return to Cincinnati on Thursday.

CAPTAIN ANDY ROBINSON, Jr., well known in this city, is visiting Cincinnati. Why don't you come this way for the sake of old times.

MR. JAMES GRENOUGH, clerk of the steamer Fannie Tatum, is an old Pittsburgher and was formerly engaged in the newspaper business in this city.

WHAT has become of the fast trip the Louisville *Courier-Journal* was to start up from Louisville to Cincinnati Lytle? Always a good talker but a poor performer.

THE Peoria *Transcript* says that John Dodge has been appointed master of the Fagette. We don't know about that, but Harry Meredith is coming down as captain of her.

THE favorite steamer Mollie Ebert, Captain Fatchelor, is announced for a return trip to Cincinnati and Louisville. Passengers and shippers can make a note of this.

THE weather being pleasant, now is the time to take your family and make an excursion to the headwaters of the Monongahela. The fare on this packets is very reasonable. Hours of departure 8 A. M. and 4 P. M.

THE steamer Minnesota, *en route* from Memphis to Cincinnati, has the following freight for Pittsburgh: Pitts-burgh Sewing Machine Co., 2 bxs.; order for Birmingham & Co., 30 bales cotton; Kennedy, Childs & Co., 50 bales cotton.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Mr Edwin Speer, a soldier, left Pittsburgh as a deck hand on a steamer (name not known), for Memphis on the 13th of July, 1874. As he has not been heard from since, he is supposed to be drowned. He was a brother-in-law of Captain S. Shuck, of Memphis. If any person can give any information of him it will be gratefully received by his friends here. Will our river exchanges please make a note of the same?

THE St. Louis *Republican* says: Every morning newspapers we embrace the lightning compliment in the shape of telegrams. For by them we are assured that the Republic has not been frozen in. There is a little darkling on board that boat.

THE far-famed packet Carrie Brooks, Captain Darlington, takes her departure this day at 3 P. M. for Marietta and Zanesville. This boat is noted for fine speed, superior accommodations and attentive officers. The clerks are Messrs. Buchanan and Pridham.

THE famous steamer R. W. Skillinger, Capt. Russell, takes her departure for Cincinnati, Louisville and way points. This boat never fails to leave as advertised. She is A. No. 1 in all respects. Our clever friend Charles B. Russell will be found in the office.

THE Steamer Emma Graham has been chartered for the transportation of the effects of the State government of West Virginia from Charleston to Cincinnati. The Graham will receive her cargo on the 28st inst., and proceed immediately to the new seat of government.

THE fine passenger steamer Fannie Tatum, Captain John A. Williams, is announced for St. Louis, Galena, Dubuque and St. Paul. She will also give through receipts for Southern ports. Capt. Williams is well and favorably known in this city. He is a clever gentleman and a square boatman.

THE new and splendid passenger steamer John L. Rhoads, Capt. J. M. Vandergrift, is announced for Louisville, Cairo, St. Louis and St. Paul. She will be commanded by Capt. Vandergrift for the trade, and offers the best of accommodations for passengers and shippers. The Clerks are Messrs. John C. Fisher and Greenlee.

THE Jacksonport *Dispatch* and Batesville *Republican* are not satisfied with the manner in which the Government has work done, the former of which says: "The Thomas Tunnel, United States snagboat, has left these waters, and the question arises as to whether the navigable qualities of White river have been in any degree improved by its efficient mashing." The Batesville *Republican* thinks the matter might very properly be investigated.

THE Portsmouth *Tribune* says: We have the best authority for stating that the reports in regard to the withdrawal of the way river mail from Cincinnati to Huntington is without foundation

CITY MATTERS.

For one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., May 17, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30.303	43	67	.....	Calm.	Fair.
2 P. M.	30.256	62	23	N. E.	Gentle	Fair.
9 P. M.	30.244	53	54	.....	Calm.	Fair.

Mean barometer....30.274 Highest thermom. 64
Mean thermometer.. 53 Lowest thermom. 37

Malicious Prosecution.

Richard Huntley yesterday entered suit, in the Court of Common Pleas, against J. J. Hays, a constable of Allegheny, for alleged malicious prosecution and false arrest on a charge of aggravated assault and battery. A capias was issued.

Vital Statistics.

One hundred and twenty-eight examinations of the lungs were made last week at the Throat and Lung Institute, No. 128 Fourth avenue, by Dr. Hunter. He found in many cases a lung capacity of but 125 cubic inches, where there should have been 200 to 226, and the average was much below the normal standard.

Baptist Social Union.

The ninth meeting of the Baptist Social Union for Pittsburgh, Allegheny and vicinity will be held this evening at half past seven o'clock in the Ninteenth street Baptist church, South Side. Addresses will be made by Dr. R. W. Pearson, Rev. J. E. Craig and others. A pleasant time may be expected.

Puckety Island in Litigation.

'Squire Ainsworth and wife instituted proceedings in ejectment yesterday in the Common Pleas No. 2 against Columbus West, Jane and George Pearsall, George Elliott and others, to recover possession of Puckety Island in the Allegheny river, near Tarentum, alleging that the title and right of possession are in them, and not in the defendants. The island contains some fourteen acres. A summons was issued.

A Conference Meeting.

At the Lincoln Club rooms, yesterday, the committee of Allegheny City Republicans recently appointed, met with Mr. Fulton, Chairman, and other members of the County Executive Committee, with reference to the representation of Allegheny in the coming county conventions. After consultation on the matter Mr. Fulton, chairman, assured the Alleghenians that a meeting of the County Committee would be held at an early day to act upon the subject.

Suit Against a Delinquent Bidder.

Sheriff Hare, yesterday, entered suit in the Common Pleas Court, for the use of Charles Hoffman, against Daniel Miller, to recover three hundred dollars. It appears that on a piece of property being exposed at Sheriff's sale some time ago Miller bid four hundred dollars, but did not come to time in the payments. The property was subsequently sold to Hoffman at an adjourned sheriff's sale, for fifty dollars. The suit is to recover the difference from defendant.

Printing Contract.

The Committee on City Printing met last evening at the office of the City Clerk, Mr. Fox in the chair. The bids for printing the report of the Superintendent of Public Works were opened and were: Stevenson, Foster & Co., $47; Nevin, Gribben & Co., $71; Herald Printing Company, $41; B. Singerly & Co., $115 50. The contract was awarded to the Herald Printing Company.

A bill of Stevenson, Foster & Co. for job printing till March, amounting to $1,305 28, was audited and ordered to be paid.

Adjourned.

Humane Society Cases.

Michael Dean, Agent of the Humane Society, yesterday had Francis Buchart before Alderman Bartley, on a charge of cruelty and, after a hearing, the defendant was fined two dollars and costs. The agent found in the possession of Buchart three calves with their legs tied in a cruel manner and being conveyed in a wagon.

Superintendent Street, of the Society, prosecuted D. H. Arnold, before Alderman McKenna, for working in a wagon a horse with a sore back. The defendant was fined ten dollars and costs.

"Cramming" In the Public Schools.

We reported, recently, that the Text Book Committee of the Central Board of Education had under consideration the subject of grades in the schools, the idea being to avoid, if possible, the "cramming" process so objectionable to parents, and so injurious to pupils. As we stated the committee intended to defer action in the matter, and have a special meeting for the purpose of hearing the views of the Principals of the schools upon the subject. It may be said that there are but two ways to lessen the work of the pupils: viz: to lighter out of some of the studies or increase the number of years of the ward school course. The course now consists of seven years, and to propose to add a one year, while others would prefer in addition, the reduction of the number of studies.

We are authorized to announce that the proposed meeting will be held this Tuesday evening at the Central Rooms, and that all the Principals are expected to be present. The subject is one of great importance, and is worthy of very thoughtful consideration.

Odd Fellowship.

The Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania met in annual session, yesterday, at Williamsport. The officers elect are: M. W. Grand Patriarch, Sullivan S. Child, of No. 10, Harrisburg; M. E. Grand High Priest, George Bertram, No. 36, Philadelphia; R. W. Grand Senior Warden, Edward Jones, of No. 81, Pittsburg; R. W. Grand Junior Warden, S. Nicholson, of No. 51, Philadelphia; R. W. Grand Treasurer, John S. Hess, of No. 26, Philadelphia; R. W. Grand Scribe, Samuel H. Lukens, No. 12, Philadelphia; R. W. G. R. to the G. L. U. S., M. Richards Muckle, of No. 51, Philadelphia.

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The Professional Thieves Discharged and Re-arrested.

Judge Kirkpatrick yesterday rendered a decision in the case of Palmer, Zerdman and Thomas, committed by the Mayor as professional thieves, and brought before the Court on a *habeas corpus*. The Judge stated that he was satisfied the men were thieves, as represented, because they had been given ample time to produce some evidence in their favor, and had failed to present to the Court a single syllable. Nevertheless, upon consultation with his brother White, he was constrained to decide that the act under which these men were arrested, was not broad enough to cover their arrest under the circumstances alleged and admitted. They were, therefore discharged. The detectives in attendance, and the police, were present in force and the "sharpers" had not left the court room before they were informed by Inspector Bigley, Rivers, Cupples, and others. They were arrested on warrants issued upon information charging them with entering the Peoples' Savings bank with intent to commit a felony. In default of $2,000 bail each, they were committed for a hearing on Monday next.

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On motion adjourned.

A Question and Answer.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

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ANSWER.

We cannot understand why there should be any difficulty in comprehending the question asked. It certainly *is* one hundred years from July 4, 1776, to July 4, 1876—just as surely as it is ten full years from July 4, 1776, to July 4, 1786. Counting each decade separately, they number ten, and ten times ten are how many? If our correspondent had one hundred pennies, and wished to stamp a "fourth of July" upon each, to correspond with each recurring anniversary of our independence, the first would bear the year 1777, and the last 1876. In other words he would count twenty-four pennies by the 4th of July 1800, and would require seventy-six more before marking July 4th, 1876.

As to voting age a man is twenty-one years old on turning (or arriving at) his twenty-first birthday. He must be one year old before he can count his first anniversary; and when he reaches his twenty-first he is of course twenty-one years old.

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MORNING SESSION.

Greensburg, Judge Logan on the bench.

The Commonwealth called witnesses as follows:

Rush Shaner, sworn—I am a resident of Armstrong's Station; on the Sunday of the fight I saw the Italians come over the river; saw no arms; they did not behave peacably; they acted in a rough, noisy way for a Sunday morning, and stopped in Mr. Bell's orchard and he ordered them out; they then went toward the village; I then went into the house and told my wife I thought we would have to leave; while she was dressing there was a volley heard but could not hear where it was; the next I saw was the Italians trying to cross the river on a flat; some of the Italians threatened to fire if the rest did not come back after firing; afterward heard several shots; this occurred no later than eleven o'clock; occasional firing was heard during the day; at the crossing of the river there was firing by both parties; heard shots from the upper end of Buena Vista; the firing during the day was under cover, but I do not know what they were firing at; in the afternoon I saw a great gathering of the people on the hillsides; they were not armed; saw men in Buena Vista during the day, with guns; I did not recognize any among them; saw a white flag was afterwards hoisted on the Italian side; in the evening we went to where my wife was, about a mile distant, and stayed all night; I know the prisoners, but saw none of the prisoners except about four o'clock; walked down the river and saw him about seven o'clock in the morning before the affair occurred.

The cross-examination of this witness developed nothing additional to his testimony in chief.

Thomas Moore, coal and whisky merchant, residing at Moore's station, a short distance from Armstrong's, testified that he saw men behind a chimney on the river, on the Allegheny county side of the river; saw about forty armed men there, but could not recognize any of them.

Frank Patterson, of Buena Vista, testified concerning the visit of a band of Italians to his town on the Sunday of the riot, and of their being fired on by parties in Buena Vista, and driven back across the river. Witness knew Watson, Douglass and Thompson, and had spoken with them about the subject; heard them make no threats.

Patrick Toolan, sworn—Resides at Armstrong's station; on the Sunday of the fight I was a quarter of a mile away from the place; know the prisoners at the bar; never had any conversation with them about the killing of the Italians; I was at Armstrong's Station about eight o'clock; and then went up the hill to Larimer's house; on the way up saw the Italians crossing the river in flats and going up the bank; some stopped in the orchard, and others in the road; I went back to my family and found that they had fled; my house was in danger from the firing from both sides of the river.

At this point Court took a recess until half past one o'clock.

Afternoon Session.

Court re-assembled at half-past one o'clock, and the testimony of Patrick Toolan was continued as follows: Before I reached the railroad the Italians were all in the flat and in the river; in the afternoon, at three o'clock, I came down to Armstrong's; heard shots from both sides of the river, and went back; did not see the persons who fired; know the prisoners, but never had any conversation with them about the Italians.

Catherine Grimes, sworn—Reside at Armstrong's Station; on the Sunday of the fighting I was at the time of the battle; I saw men shoot; saw armed men going backwards and forwards; saw a wounded Italian; heard the firing; my husband was on the porch and saw men in the yard firing; know Mr. Douglass, but did not see him or any of the prisoners there; I saw a man on the track at the time the firing was going on; have lived in the neighborhood about three years, but at the time the firing was going on did not recognize any person.

James F. Knight—sworn—Reside in Allegheny county opposite Armstrong's coal works; persons could be recognized across the river; the 29th of November I was at my house; I saw very little of the transaction; saw the Italians cross the river in the morning; got pass by about fifty yards off my house; the next I saw was they were disorderly retreat; when they re-crossed there was firing from both sides; saw armed men between my house and Buena Vista, but did not recognize any of them; do not remember any conversation with Wm. Watson in reference to the Italians; do not think there was anything said in my house.

Cross-examination—The men when they came across the river appeared to be splashing water on each other, and I looked more like a frolic to me than a military incursion. I never had conversation with the Italians, except a brief conversation with Guscetti; the firing continued nearly all day, but it ceased when the men came up over the hill by the school house; we had been treated to quite a shower of bullets before; this same came directly across the river, some diagonally, some from above and some from below; my house seemed to be the centre-firing point for the firing along the whole Italian line; there was hardly a sound window in the house; the lives of my family were endangered; I never considered myself the object of attack—rather an accidental victim.

Matthew Osborne, sworn—Reside at Sharon's station; was back of Buena Vista on the hills part of the Sunday afternoon; saw collection of the people and heard the firing but was too far away to distinguish any of the combatants; in the morning a skiff load of people came down and they said the Italians had gone over to Buena Vista for ammunition; they went over to get away from the bullets; the firing ceased very soon after the party got on the hill; I was not in the battle.

ARMSTRONG'S SUPERINTENDENT EXAMINED.

J. W. McArthur, sworn—Resided at Armstrong's Station, and was superintendent of the works at Armstrong's all the time the Italians were there; they came for the purpose of mining operations; I tried to find out what the question saw fifteen Italians unarmed cross the river; heard several shots and then saw the Italians retreating and coming back; the shots on this side fired; I tried to stop them from the firing but they were all firing; the firing fired at and they wanted to cover their retreat; the bullets came pretty fast and I went to the top of the hill; saw armed men coming into Buena Vista after rewards went to McGlinden's saloon; saw Italians fall; heard no shots; believe their ammunition gave out; the other side still fired; I attempted to leave about five o'clock, and from that day kept the house between the guns and me, and saw several parties marching up to the school house; it was a little after dark, and in about five minutes later heard a volley; could not tell whether there was any firing by the Italians or not; think they ceased about half-past two o'clock.

Cross-examination—It is possible that I may be mistaken about the Italians not running out of ammunition; I acted on that supposition; attended about one month; the Italians were armed when they got off the train; I am positive that the Italians did not cross the river the first night they came up; there were one hundred and ten men when they first came up; they were all in the yard except twelve detailed as watchmen around the houses; they brought a man named Pinkerton and one named Craig as prisoners to Mr. Lattimer, who explained that there was no cause for their arrest; the morning the fight there was firing until half-past one; I could make myself understood to seven or eight of the Italians besides those in charge.

WM. GUFFEY EXAMINED.

Wm. Guffey—Resides at Guffey's station; on Sunday, November 29th, I was at Mr. Watson's house; saw the Italians about nine o'clock; Dr. Penny riding along said a fight was going on; met parties who said the Italians were invading Buena Vista; Dr. Ford and myself went to the scene and found people firing; telegraphed from Greensburg to the Sheriff that a riot was going on; returned to the station at half-past four; know the prisoners at the bar; Mr. White, he was constrained to decide that the act under which these men were arrested, was not broad enough to cover their arrest under the circumstances alleged and admitted. They were, therefore discharged. The detectives in attendance, and the police, were present in force and the "sharpers" had not left the court room before they were informed by Inspector Bigley, Rivers, Cupples, and others. They were arrested on warrants issued upon information charging them with entering the Peoples' Savings bank with intent to commit a felony. In default of $2,000 bail each, they were committed for a hearing on Monday next.

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Court re-assembled at half-past one o'clock, and the testimony of Patrick Toolan was continued as follows: Before I reached the railroad the Italians were all in the flat and in the river; in the afternoon, at three o'clock, I came down to Armstrong's; heard shots from both sides of the river, and went back; did not see the persons who fired; know the prisoners, but never had any conversation with them about the Italians.

Catherine Grimes, sworn—Reside at Armstrong's Station; on the Sunday of the fighting I was at the time of the battle; I saw men shoot; saw armed men going backwards and forwards; saw a wounded Italian; heard the firing; my husband was on the porch and saw men in the yard firing; know Mr. Douglass, but did not see him or any of the prisoners there; I saw a man on the track at the time the firing was going on; have lived in the neighborhood about three years, but at the time the firing was going on did not recognize any person.

James F. Knight—sworn—Reside in Allegheny county opposite Armstrong's coal works; persons could be recognized across the river; the 29th of November I was at my house; I saw very little of the transaction; saw the Italians cross the river in the morning; got pass by about fifty yards off my house; the next I saw was they were disorderly retreat; when they re-crossed there was firing from both sides; saw armed men between my house and Buena Vista, but did not recognize any of them; do not remember any conversation with Wm. Watson in reference to the Italians; do not think there was anything said in my house.

Cross-examination—The men when they came across the river appeared to be splashing water on each other, and I looked more like a frolic to me than a military incursion. I never had conversation with the Italians, except a brief conversation with Guscetti; the firing continued nearly all day, but it ceased when the men came up over the hill by the school house; we had been treated to quite a shower of bullets before; this same came directly across the river, some diagonally, some from above and some from below; my house seemed to be the centre-firing point for the firing along the whole Italian line; there was hardly a sound window in the house; the lives of my family were endangered; I never considered myself the object of attack—rather an accidental victim.

Matthew Osborne, sworn—Reside at Sharon's station; was back of Buena Vista on the hills part of the Sunday afternoon; saw collection of the people and heard the firing but was too far away to distinguish any of the combatants; in the morning a skiff load of people came down and they said the Italians had gone over to Buena Vista for ammunition; they went over to get away from the bullets; the firing ceased very soon after the party got on the hill; I was not in the battle.

ARMSTRONG'S SUPERINTENDENT EXAMINED.

J. W. McArthur, sworn—Resided at Armstrong's Station; on the Sunday of the fight I was at Armstrong's all the time the Italians were there; they came for the purpose of mining operations; I tried to find out what the question saw fifteen Italians unarmed cross the river; heard several shots and then saw the Italians retreating and coming back; the shots on this side fired; I tried to stop them from the firing but they were all firing; the firing fired at and they wanted to cover their retreat; the bullets came pretty fast and I went to the top of the hill; saw armed men coming into Buena Vista after rewards went to McGlinden's saloon; saw Italians fall; heard no shots; believe their ammunition gave out; the other side still fired; I attempted to leave about five o'clock, and from that day kept the house between the guns and me, and saw several parties marching up to the school house; it was a little after dark, and in about five minutes later heard a volley; could not tell whether there was any firing by the Italians or not; think they ceased about half-past two o'clock.

Cross-examination—It is possible that I may be mistaken about the Italians not running out of ammunition; I acted on that supposition; attended about one month; the Italians were armed when they got off the train; I am positive that the Italians did not cross the river the first night they came up; there were one hundred and ten men when they first came up; they were all in the yard except twelve detailed as watchmen around the houses; they brought a man named Pinkerton and one named Craig as prisoners to Mr. Lattimer, who explained that there was no cause for their arrest; the morning the fight there was firing until half-past one; I could make myself understood to seven or eight of the Italians besides those in charge.

WM. GUFFEY EXAMINED.

Wm. Guffey—Resides at Guffey's station; on Sunday, November 29th, I was at Mr. Watson's house; saw the Italians about nine o'clock; Dr. Penny riding along said a fight was going on; met parties who said the Italians were invading Buena Vista; Dr. Ford and myself went to the scene and found people firing; telegraphed from Greensburg to the Sheriff that a riot was going on; returned to the station at half-past four; know the prisoners at the bar; Mr. White, he was constrained to decide that the act under which these men were arrested, was not broad enough to cover their arrest under the circumstances alleged and admitted. They were, therefore discharged. The detectives in attendance, and the police, were present in force and the "sharpers" had not left the court room before they were informed by Inspector Bigley, Rivers, Cupples, and others. They were arrested on warrants issued upon information charging them with entering the Peoples' Savings bank with intent to commit a felony. In default of $2,000 bail each, they were committed for a hearing on Monday next.

The Nail Feeders' Strike at Wheeling.

The Wheeling *Register*, of yesterday, gives the report of a meeting held in that city on Saturday, to ascertain the feeling of the feeders in regard to continuing the strike, or whether they considered it advisable to resume work at the old prices. Mays & Several speakers gave their views upon the subject, after which the matter was referred to a committee for report.

The committee subsequently reported in favor of going back to work at the old terms, provided the feeders got their old positions. The report was not, however, carried by the meeting, and then a committee was appointed to confer with the nailers on the subject. The feeders in all the mills will go to work this morning, with the exception of the Top Mill. The feeders will establish a precedent, that is those that remain in the city, many of them having gone away to obtain work elsewhere, will hold a meeting to confer on consultation and action. There will probably be trouble in one or two of the mills in regard to the change of feeders, as have been given jobs since the strike. However, that will soon be settled, and there is every probability that all the feeders will be to work in a few days.

The Temperance Alliance.

A regular weekly meeting of the Temperance Alliance was held yesterday.

After reports and remarks from persons present, the following resolution presented by Mr. Kirk was adopted:

Resolved, That we call the attention of his Honor, Mayor McCarthy, and Chief of Police McCandless to the glaring violations of the Sunday Liquor law, and respectfully request his earnest attention to the faithful enforcement.

The Chair then appointed the following ladies as a committee to present the above to the Mayor:

Mrs. Allender, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Vanhorn, Mrs. Gormly and Mrs. Collins.

The question appointed for discussion was the one following, offered by Mr. Kirk, was carried:

Resolved, That we hail with satisfaction the efforts of the Administration to rigidly enforce the excise laws on whisky distillers, and we hope they will continue the fight, and not let up on the line if it should take the whole summer, 'n until the good work is successful.

The "National Commentary" Rev. Swift, Mr. Rabe and others met in the rear room and discussed matters relative to the issuing of a new Centennial distribution. This circular will contain the recently adopted constitution, the "call," the names of officers, etc.

On motion adjourned.

A Question and Answer.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In reply to our question and answer, in your issue of May the 12th, that the 31st day of December, 1800, was the last day of the eighteenth century, and that January 1st, 1801, was the first day of the nineteenth century. Your accompanying explanation convinces us that we were wrong in our views. Now, please give us your decision in the following: Will we have completed the full term of one hundred years of our National Independence on the 4th day July, 1876? We are allowed to vote on turning our twenty-first birth day; I take taking your view, as we understand it, we are not twenty-one years old.

Amos Kero.

Rice's Landing, Pa., May 15, 1875.

ANSWER.

We cannot understand why there should be any difficulty in comprehending the question asked. It certainly *is* one hundred years from July 4, 1776, to July 4, 1876—just as surely as it is ten full years from July 4, 1776, to July 4, 1786. Counting each decade separately, they number ten, and ten times ten are how many? If our correspondent had one hundred pennies, and wished to stamp a "fourth of July" upon each, to correspond with each recurring anniversary of our independence, the first would bear the year 1777, and the last 1876. In other words he would count twenty-four pennies by the 4th of July 1800, and would require seventy-six more before marking July 4th, 1876.

As to voting age a man is twenty-one years old on turning (or arriving at) his twenty-first birthday. He must be one year old before he can count his first anniversary; and when he reaches his twenty-first he is of course twenty-one years old.

Rising Sun Flour.

For sale by leading flour on market, makes large ...ield.

OLD TIME RECOLLECTIONS.

President Monroe's Visit to Pittsburgh—The Monongahela Bridge—The Duel Between Bates and Stewart.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Within the last year it has been my good fortune to become acquainted with a very intelligent old gentleman, who has an extraordinary recollection of local events covering a period of half a century. He is also exceedingly well posted in the earlier history of the city, and knew some of the citizens who afterward became prominent and wealthy business men. In my conversations with him I have been instructed and entertained by many exceedingly interesting local reminiscences, some of which I propose to give to the readers of the COMMERCIAL.

When President Monroe visited this city in 1817, he came over the Washington turnpike, still known as the "old Washington road." It winds from Sawmill run up and over the top of Coal Hill, and then winds down around the point, which can be seen from the city, called at that time the "blue rocks," to the Monongahela bridge, which was then being built. On the day fixed for the arrival of the President, Mr. Guthrie, the father of John B. Guthrie, after providing himself with a white flag, and, accompanied by others, ascended the hillside to the point on its brow, a short distance above where the Herron cut-off now crosses, and stood waiting the approaching party appeared on an elevated part of the road, a short distance from where the Billinger mansion now stands. Mr. Guthrie waved his flag as a signal for a salute to be fired from a battery of guns posted on the Bellefield public school building, Oakland, when Rev. S. E. Scovel will lecture on "Education and Character," and a select reading will be given by Mr. Mc Maggrah. The morning session will be held at the Ralston school building, Penn avenue, when Miss Lottie Sellers will read a class drill on Drawing. Prof. L. S. Durning will lecture on "The Eye," and a class drill in writing will be given. The query "Should the ward school course be extended one year, or should the number of studies be reduced?"

CONFIRMED—HIGH JOINT DISEASE CURED.

W. GROVE STATION, Ia., July 14, 1872.

DR. PIERCE, Buffalo:

Dear Sir—My wife first became lame nine years ago. Swelling would appear and disappear on the joints of her knees, but she was gradually reduced, and her whole system rotten with disease. In 1871 a swelling broke on her hip, and discharged large quantities, and then left there are several openings. Have had five doctors at an expense of $125, who say nothing will do any good but a surgical operation.

July 15th, 1873, he writes thus: My wife has certainly received a great benefit from the use of your Discovery, for she was not able to get out of bed for six months, and was not expected to live a week when she commenced using it, a year ago. She has been doing most of her work for over six months. Has used two bottles and still using it. Her recovery is considered as almost a miracle, and we attribute it to the use of your valuable medicine. I can cheerfully recommend it as a blood purifier and strength RESTORER. T. TH. *

SPECIAL NOTICES.

May.

To all, particularly invalids, spring is a trying season. Indications of sickness should at once be attended to. Fatal diseases may be averted by allowing the bowels to become constipated, and the system to remain in a disordered condition. Now is the proper time to check to develop itself. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, is